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Domestic Violence Counts Missouri Summary

On September 12, 2012, 67 out of 67, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Missouri participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

2,123 Victims Served in One Day

1,451 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs. In addition to a safe place to lay their heads at night, shelter residents were provided with a variety of comprehensive services, some of which are listed in the chart below.

672 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.

This chart shows the percentage of programs that provided the following services on the Census Day.

Services Provided by Local Programs:	Sept. 12
Individual Support or Advocacy	99%
Children's Support or Advocacy	81%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	76%
Transportation	58%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	49%
Group Support or Advocacy	48%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	49%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	42%

494 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

845 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 845 individuals in communities across Missouri attended 42 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

416 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 400 request for services, including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation, that could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to offer these services.

57% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 237 requests unmet.

Of the unmet requests, the following services were the most requested:

1. Emergency Shelter
2. Counseling
3. Transitional Housing
4. Attorney/Legal Representation
5. Legal Advocacy/Accompaniment

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 34% reported no available beds or money for hotel stays.
- 28% reported not enough staff.
- 24% reported limited funding for needed programs and services.
- 9% reported not enough specialized services (e.g., drug and alcohol counselor)
- 4% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"This summer we expanded our shelter from 75 to 100 beds. The Sunday before the Survey we were over capacity with 112 women and children. As our community outreach efforts increase and improve, the number of survivors seeking safe housing and help exceeds the available resources."

