

'12

Domestic Violence Counts Mississippi Summary

On September 12, 2012, 9 out of 13, or 69%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Mississippi participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 9 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

288 Victims Served in One Day

227 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.

61 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	100%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	89%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	56%
Group Support or Advocacy	56%
Transportation	67%
Children's Support or Advocacy	100%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	11%

121 Hotline Calls Answered

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

112 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 112 individuals in communities across Mississippi attended 7 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

6 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 5 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.

83% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 5 requests unmet.

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

1. Emergency Shelter
2. Legal Advocacy/Accompaniment

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 44% reported not enough staff.
- 22% reported not enough specialized services (e.g., drug and alcohol counselor).
- 11% reported limited funding for needed programs and services.
- 11% reported no available beds or money for hotel stays.
- 11% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"Helping a domestic violence victim move from violence to safety is a complex process because of all the barriers. Affordable housing is almost non-existent and public transportation is unreliable. Childcare is expensive and the community resources that are needed are extremely limited in today's harsh economic reality."

