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Domestic Violence Counts Montana Summary

On September 12, 2012, 17 out of 24, or 71%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Montana participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 17 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

342 Victims Served in One Day

234 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.

108 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	88%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	76%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels of safe houses)	71%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	47%
Transitional Housing	35%
Transportation	35%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	35%

100 Hotline Calls Answered

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

167 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 167 individuals in communities across Montana attended 4 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

85 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 80 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.

45% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 38 requests unmet.

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

1. Attorney/Legal Representation
2. Emergency Shelter
3. Counseling

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 47% reported limited funding for needed programs and services.
- 18% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.
- 12% reported not enough staff.
- 6% reported not enough specialized services (e.g., drug and alcohol counselor).
- 6% reported no available beds or money for hotel stays.

“We helped a woman and her children escape a very abusive marriage. They were so controlled and isolated, the children never attended school and the mother was never allowed to leave the house.”

