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Domestic Violence Counts Tennessee Summary

On September 12, 2012, 32 out of 32, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Tennessee participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

768 Victims Served in One Day

460 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.

308 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	97%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	78%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	81%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	53%
Transportation	63%
Rural Outreach	47%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	41%
Transitional Housing	34%

295 Hotline Calls Answered

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

731 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 731 individuals in communities across the Tennessee attended 21 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

101 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 100 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.

66% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 67 requests unmet.

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

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

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 25% reported not enough staff.
- 22% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 22% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 19% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.
- 6% reported not enough specialized services.

“Many survivors don’t have the funds for legal representation and legal aid can’t meet the high demand. Survivors often end up facing their abusers in court alone and court rulings are often not in their favor. “

