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Domestic Violence Counts Wisconsin Summary

On September 12, 2012, 58 out of 72, or 81%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Wisconsin participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 58 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,506 Victims Served in One Day

796 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.

710 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	91%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	62%
Transitional Housing	34%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	72%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	10%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	48%
Support/Advocacy to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	17%
Support/Advocacy to Elder Victims of Abuse	31%

701 Hotline Calls Answered

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

837 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 837 individuals in communities across Wisconsin attended 31 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

155 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 150 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.

74% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 114 requests unmet.

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

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

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 26% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 24% reported not enough staff.
- 17% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 10% limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.
- 7% reported not enough specialized services.

“In the middle of an intake assessment, the survivor abruptly stopped. With tears welling up in her eyes, she said ‘You just don’t know what being here with you and these wonderful people helping me means to me. Thank you.’”

