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Domestic Violence Counts New Mexico Summary

On September 17, 2013, 23 out of 27 (85%), of identified local domestic violence programs in New Mexico participated in the 2013 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 23 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

951 Victims Served in One Day

669 domestic violence victims (393 children and 276 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

282 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. 17
Individual Support or Advocacy	100%
Children's Support or Advocacy	83%
Emergency Shelter	78%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	65%
Group Support or Advocacy	61%
Transportation	61%
Bilingual Advocacy	61%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	57%

110 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources. In the 24-hour survey period, domestic violence programs answered more than 5 hotline calls every hour.

404 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 404 individuals in communities across New Mexico attended 21 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

162 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 90% (145) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 150 requests for services, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and nonresidential services, that could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to provide these services. The most frequently requested non-residential service that couldn't be provided was housing advocacy, followed by legal representation.

Impact of Unmet Requests for Help

Domestic violence programs do not always know what happens when a survivor courageously calls a stranger to ask for a bed or other help and the services aren't available however 48% of programs report that victims are forced to return to their abuser, 17% report that victims become homeless, and 13% report that the families are forced to live in their cars.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 52% reported reduced government funding.
- 30% reported not enough available staff.
- 22% reported private funding cuts.
- 22% reported reduced individual donations.

Across New Mexico 34 (8%) staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most of these positions were direct services, such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

During the day of the census we were able to provide safe shelter for a young mother and her small child. She had to flee her home due her partner's violence and they had no place to go. She expressed her feelings of happiness of having a safe place to stay for her and her child.

— Advocate

