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Domestic Violence Counts Kentucky Summary

On September 16, 2015, 15 out of 15 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Kentucky participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 15 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,004 Victims Served in One Day

628 domestic violence victims (250 children and 378 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

376 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. 16
Individual Support or Advocacy	100%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	100%
Emergency Shelter	100%
Transitional or Other Housing Program (run by DV program)	67%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	60%
Financial Literacy/Budgeting	60%
Support/Advocacy Related to Housing/Landlord	60%
Support/Advocacy Related to Mental Health	53%

167 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 6 hotline calls every hour.

150 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 150 individuals in communities across Kentucky attended 10 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

129 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 68% Were for Housing

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services. In addition to housing and emergency shelter, programs reported that of the service requests they could not meet, Rental Assistance/Utilities, Transportation/Gas, and Attorney/Legal Representation services were most in demand.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across Kentucky, 40 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 40% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 27% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 27% of programs reported fewer individual donors.
- 27% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.

Across Kentucky, 18 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and all of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

“A nonresidential client requested assistance finding alternative housing. Currently, she lives in a very rural community and is in the same neighborhood as her abuser. He has made efforts to contact her and she is afraid that being out in the country away from people would make it easier for him to hurt her. She wants to move closer to town where she would be near more people, not so isolated and further from him. Our advocate worked diligently with her to attempt to locate other housing options, but waiting lists for rentals and apartments in the town are very long.”

— Advocate

