



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS Florida Summary

On September 13, 2017, 42 out of 42 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Florida participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by these 42 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

2,653 Victims Served in One Day

2,212 adult and child victims of domestic violence found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

441 adult and child victims received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children’s support groups.

Services Provided by Local Programs	On Census Day
Emergency Shelter	98%
Homicide Reduction Initiative/Lethality Assessment	40%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	17%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	17%

418 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources. During the 24-hour survey period, local and state hotline staff in Florida answered on average 17 hotline calls per hour.

16 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On Census Day, 16 individuals in communities across Florida attended five training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more.

97 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 73% (71) were for Housing

Victims made nearly 100 requests for services—including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, legal representation, and more—that could not be provided because programs lacked the resources to meet victims’ needs.

In the past year, 20 local programs in Florida laid off or did not fill 49 staff positions. Most of these positions (59%) were direct service providers, such as shelter staff or legal advocates. This means that there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help or provide needed services.

❖ “Following Hurricane Irma, our center provided temporary shelter to survivors from another center that evacuated due to damage. Advocates onsite were able to provide supportive listening, validate their experiences, and offer resources and coping strategies during this time. Survivors stated that they felt safe and supported throughout the emergency placement.”

