



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS Tennessee Summary

On September 13, 2017, 36 out of 36 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Tennessee participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by these 36 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

984 Victims Served in One Day

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

326 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
Children’s Support or Advocacy	94%
Emergency Shelter	89%
Court Accompaniment/Legal Advocacy	56%

270 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 Tennessee answered on average 11 hotline calls per hour.

247 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On Census Day, 247 individuals in communities across Tennessee attended 13 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention early intervention, and more.

137 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 97% (133) were for Housing

Victims made nearly 140 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, nine local programs in Tennessee laid off or did not fill 11 staff positions. Most of these positions (64%) 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.

❖ “A woman called seeking emergency shelter for her and her children. Unfortunately, we were full and had to call multiple shelters before finding one that had space. All too often the demand for shelter is greater than our capacity. Without a safe place to go, mothers and their children may have to return to their abuser or become homeless. The need for additional emergency, transitional, and long-term housing is crucial.”

