



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS Virginia Summary

On September 13, 2017, 51 out of 51 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Virginia participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by these 51 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,514 Victims Served in One Day

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

686 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	86%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	55%
Support/Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	37%
Support/Advocacy Related to Health Care or Health Care Systems	24%

423 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 Virginia answered on average 18 hotline calls per hour.

491 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On Census Day, 491 individuals in communities across Virginia attended 43 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more.

185 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 54% (100) were for Housing

Victims made nearly 190 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, 12 local programs in Virginia laid off or did not fill 21 staff positions. Most of these positions (53%) 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 in the shelter with her children came to us and said she appreciates everything the staff was doing for her and she finally feels safe. She told us now that she is here, her children are no longer scared and they are happier than she has seen in a long time.”

