



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS Montana Summary

On September 14, 2016, 17 out of 21 **(81%)** identified domestic violence programs in Montana participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by these 17 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 274 Victims Served in One Day

**183** domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

**91** adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children’s support groups.

Services Provided by Local Programs	Sept. 14th
Support/Advocacy Related to Mental Health	<b>29%</b>
Legal Representation by an Attorney	<b>24%</b>
Support/Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse	<b>12%</b>
Support/Advocacy Related to Immigration	<b>6%</b>
Support/Advocacy for LGBTQ Victims of Abuse	<b>0%</b>

### 117 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, local and state hotline staff answered **117** calls, averaging **5** hotline calls every hour.

❖ An advocate said, “A mother with two children who had been assaulted by her ex-husband was not informed that he was being released. His mother called to warn her after he got out. She contacted the hotline and was placed in shelter. Upon arrival she kept talking about how glad she was that he didn’t know about the shelter because he had told his mom he was going to find her and make her pay for turning him in.”

### 393 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, **393** individuals in communities across Montana attended **9** training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 73 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 99% (72) were for Housing

When there are not enough resources, survivors’ requests for a safe place to live, legal representation, counseling, and other supportive services go tragically unmet—countless times in a single day.

Victims made **73** requests for services—including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, legal advocacy, and more—that could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to provide these services.

Across Montana, **13** staff positions were eliminated in the past year. Many **(44%)** of these positions were for direct services, such as shelter staff or legal advocates. This means there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help or provide needed services.