



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS District of Columbia Summary

On September 13, 2018, 12 out of 12 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in the District of Columbia participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by these 12 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

589 Victims Served in One Day

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

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

Services Provided by Local Programs	Sept. 13 th
Court Accompaniment or Legal Advocacy	50%
Support/Advocacy to Teen/Young Adult Victims of Dating Abuse	42%
Support/Advocacy Related to Housing/Landlord	25%
Support/Advocacy Related to Mental Health	25%

129 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, hotline staff in the District of Columbia answered on average 5 hotline calls per hour.

20 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 20 individuals in communities across the District of Columbia attended 10 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

49 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 61% (30) were for Housing

Victims made 49 requests for services — including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, legal representation, and more — that could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to provide these services. The most frequently requested non-residential services that could not be provided were housing advocacy, legal representation, and financial assistance.

In the past year, local programs in the District of Columbia were forced to eliminate 9 staff positions. Many of these positions (25%) 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.

❖ An advocate in the District of Columbia said, “Immigrant survivors already wait longer than other populations to reach out for help, until the violence is far more high-risk. Their increasing fear of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, deportation, and the prospect of losing their children is noticeably prolonging the abuse and impacting their decisions about moving forward with safety plans.”