



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS Montana Summary

On September 13, 2017, 18 out of 20 (90%) identified domestic violence programs in Montana participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by these 18 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

331 Victims Served in One Day

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

147 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
Therapy/Counseling for Adults (by a licensed practitioner)	39%
Transitional or Other Housing (run by a DV program)	28%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	17%
Support/Advocacy for LGBTQ Victims of Abuse	17%

149 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 Montana answered on average six hotline calls per hour.

83 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On Census Day, 83 individuals in communities across Montana attended five training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more.

78 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 91% (71) were for Housing

Victims made nearly 80 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, five local programs in Montana laid off or did not fill nine staff positions. Most of these positions (56%) 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 Native American woman came to us from a reservation with her son. She called trying to escape but the shelter didn’t have a vacancy, so we put them in a hotel until we could make space. After moving to the shelter, she found a job and after 46 days, she and her son moved into their own apartment and were able to get a fresh start in a new town.”

