



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS Tennessee Summary

On September 13, 2018, 38 out of 38 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Tennessee participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by these 38 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 1,274 Victims Served in One Day

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

443 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 <sup>th</sup>
Emergency Shelter	76%
Court or Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	68%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	58%
Transportation	58%
Transitional or Other Housing Program (run by DV program)	26%

### 414 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 in Tennessee answered on average 17 hotline calls per hour.

### 135 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 135 individuals in communities across Tennessee attended 16 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 126 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 92% (116) were for Housing

Victims made 126 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 Tennessee were forced to eliminate 8 staff positions. Most of these positions (67%) 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 Tennessee said, “A woman with two children called seeking shelter. The shelter has been overfull all summer. She has been ‘couch surfing’ with friends and family and cannot move out of town. We asked her if she could check back with us soon and suggested that she talk with the housing advocate for rapid re-housing in the meantime. She was frustrated that there was nothing.”