



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS Wisconsin Summary

On September 13, 2018, 50 out of 71 (70%) identified domestic violence programs in Wisconsin participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by these 50 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 1,723 Victims Served in One Day

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

792 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>
Court Accompaniment or Legal Advocacy	72%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	68%
Emergency Shelter	66%
Transportation	54%
Support/Advocacy Related to Housing/Landlord	54%

### 498 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 Wisconsin answered on average 21 hotline calls per hour.

### 803 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 803 individuals in communities across Wisconsin attended 29 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 379 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 90% (342) were for Housing

Victims made 379 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 Wisconsin were forced to eliminate 22 staff positions. Most of these positions (93%) 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 Wisconsin said, “A survivor received 21 threatening calls in less than two hours from a restricted number. Convinced that this was her perpetrator, staff assisted her in calling the police. Staff sat with her for emotional support during the interview with an officer. Later, she approached staff and thanked them for being with her because she was so scared and overwhelmed when the calls kept coming in.”

