



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS Missouri Summary

On September 13, 2018, 57 out of 65 (88%) identified domestic violence programs in Missouri participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by these 57 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 2,174 Victims Served in One Day

1,416 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

758 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	72%
Transportation	72%
Support/Advocacy Related to Mental Health	58%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	56%
Court Accompaniment or Legal Advocacy	46%

### 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 Missouri answered on average 21 hotline calls per hour.

### 321 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 321 individuals in communities across Missouri attended 21 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 631 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 74% (469) were for Housing

Victims made 631 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 Missouri were forced to eliminate 23 staff positions. Most of these positions (80%) 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 Missouri said, “A pregnant survivor had escaped to an abandoned house but her abuser found her and assaulted her. Local hotels were at full capacity. Our other office in the next county was unable to help because all of those hotels were booked as well.”