

# '09 Domestic Violence Counts California Summary

On September 15, 2009, 74 out of 126, or 59%, of identified local domestic violence programs in California participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by the 74 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 3,674 Victims Served in One Day

2,121 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

1,553 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.

This chart shows the percentage of programs that provided the following services on the Census Day.

Services Provided by Local Programs:	Sept 15
Emergency Shelter	84%
Legal Accompaniment/Court Advocacy	64%
Children's Support or Advocacy	62%
Transportation	62%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	50%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	42%
Translation/Interpretation Services	41%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults (by licensed practitioner)	34%

### 922 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, domestic violence programs answered approximately 38 hotline calls every hour.

### 2,105 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 2,105 individuals in communities across California attended 56 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 492 Unmet Requests for Services

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation. Of these unmet requests, 333 (68%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons, as reported below.

- 🏠 58% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 🏠 47% reported not enough staff.
- 🏠 34 reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 🏠 16% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.
- 🏠 15% reported not enough specialized services.

"A Spanish-speaking survivor who was eight months pregnant was so severely abused that her obstetrician recommended she go to the emergency room. A bilingual advocate helped her put together a safety plan in case her abuser was released from jail and also helped her file for a temporary restraining order."

"Due to budget restrictions, an entire floor of a county jail was closed. An abuser who was let free repeatedly harassed the victim despite a no-contact order. The district attorney recommended that the survivor come to us for assistance with a restraining order."