

'09 Domestic Violence Counts Mississippi Summary

On September 15, 2009, 11 out of 15, or 73%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Mississippi participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by the 11 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

337 Victims Served in One Day

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

162 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	91%
Individual Support or Advocacy	82%
Transportation	73%
Group Support or Advocacy	64%
Transitional Housing	64%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults (by licensed practitioner)	64%
Children's Support or Advocacy	55%
Childcare/Daycare	55%

125 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 5 hotline calls every hour.

497 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 497 individuals in communities across Mississippi attended 13 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

14 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, 7 (50%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

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

- 55% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 18% reported not enough staff.
- 9% reported not enough specialized services.
- 9% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"We helped three survivors obtain domestic abuse protection orders today. One victim had been shot by her abuser. It's an overwhelming process for a victim to do alone."

"One survivor we work with finally got her driver's license replaced and went to a job interview. Her abuser took her driver's license, her birth certificate, and her social security card. We were able to help her with funds to get these documents replaced."