

'09 Domestic Violence Counts Vermont Summary

On September 15, 2009, 12 out of 13, or 92%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Vermont participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by the 12 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

188 Victims Served in One Day

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

86 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual advocacy, 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
Individual Support or Advocacy	92%
Emergency Shelter	58%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	83%
Court Accompaniment/Advocacy	67%
Children's Support or Advocacy	42%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	58%
Transitional Housing	33%
Rural Outreach	33%

133 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 6 hotline calls every hour.

33 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 33 individuals in communities across Vermont attended 3 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

16 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, 4 (25%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

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

- 🏠 33% reported not enough staff.
- 🏠 33% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 🏠 17% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 🏠 17% reported not enough specialized services.

“Funding cuts and reduced staffing at other social service agencies, such as Economic Services, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections, and the Health Department, impact the lives of the survivors we work with. Coordinated community services that we have built are no longer able to help victims of domestic violence.”