

'09 Domestic Violence Counts Wisconsin Summary

On September 15, 2009, 63 out of 72, or 88%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Wisconsin participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by the 63 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,900 Victims Served in One Day

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

1,007 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
Individual Support or Advocacy	89%
Emergency Shelter	65%
Children's Support or Advocacy	68%
Court Accompaniment/Advocacy	49%
Advocacy Related to Disability Issues	29%
Financial Skills/Budgeting	27%
Job Training/Employment Assistance	25%
Translation/Interpretation Services	22%

749 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 31 hotline calls every hour.

677 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 677 individuals in communities across Wisconsin attended 30 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

273 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, 190 (70%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

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

- 40% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 24% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 23% reported not enough specialized services.
- 12% reported not enough staff.
- 11% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"After years of emotional abuse, post traumatic stress, and untreated mental illness, a survivor of domestic violence committed suicide."

"Our county has a very high unemployment rate because of layoffs and companies closing. We also developed an informational sheet for service providers who work with displaced workers on how to recognize signs of domestic violence and how to respond appropriately."

