

# '12

## Domestic Violence Counts Georgia Summary

On September 12, 2012, 47 out of 52, or 90%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Georgia participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 47 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 2,029 Victims Served in One Day

1,143 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs. In addition to a safe place to lay their heads at night, shelter residents were provided with a variety of comprehensive services, some of which are listed in the chart below.

886 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including 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. 12
Individual Support or Advocacy	96%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	91%
Children's Support or Advocacy	91%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	49%
Transportation	74%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	53%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	51%
Advocacy Related to Health Care	34%

### 520 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

### 654 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 654 individuals in communities across Georgia attended 35 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 307 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 300 request for services, including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation, that could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to offer these services.

### 67% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 207 requests unmet.

Of the unmet requests, the following services were the most requested:

1. Emergency Shelter
2. Attorney/Legal Representation
3. Transitional Housing
4. Legal Advocacy/Accompaniment

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 36% reported no beds and no money for hotel stays.
- 30% reported limited funding for needed programs and services.
- 21% reported not enough staff.
- 15% reported not enough specialized services (e.g., drug and alcohol counselor).
- 11% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"Today, one of the survivors we worked with got an apartment. She was most excited about seeing her name on a lease agreement because her abuser did not allow her name on any previous lease or utility agreement. I'm reminded that even something seemingly small can be a large victory and a symbol of freedom to a domestic violence survivor."

