

# '12

## Domestic Violence Counts New Jersey Summary

On September 12, 2012, 21 out of 25, or 84%, of identified local domestic violence programs in New Jersey participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 21 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 1,102 Victims Served in One Day

490 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.

612 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
Advocacy Related to Health Care	29%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	86%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	86%
Individual Support or Advocacy	95%
Transitional Housing	57%
Advocacy Related to Disability Issues	10%
Bilingual Advocacy (by bilingual advocate)	62%
Therapy/Counseling for Children	43%

### 431 Hotline Calls Answered

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

### 93 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 93 individuals in communities across the New Jersey attended 7 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 96 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 90 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.

### 69% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 66 requests unmet.

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

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

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 38% reported not enough staff.
- 19% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 19% reported not enough specialized services.
- 19% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.
- 14% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.

"Law enforcement trainings need to be more than just 4 hours; it needs to be comprehensive and include the dynamics of domestic violence as well as all the resources that are available to victims. In my experiences, law enforcement who understands the barriers victims face are more likely to be positive and helpful."

