

# '12

## Domestic Violence Counts New Mexico Summary

On September 12, 2012, 14 out of 29, or 48%, of identified local domestic violence programs in New Mexico participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 14 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 618 Victims Served in One Day

378 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.

240 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
Legal Representation by an Attorney	21%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults	43%
Therapy/Counseling for Children	29%
Job Training/Employment Assistant	7%
Transitional Housing	29%
Support/Advocacy to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	14%
Advocacy to Elder Victims of Abuse	7%
Rural Outreach	21%

### 176 Hotline Calls Answered

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

### 90 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 90 individuals in communities across the New Mexico attended 5 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 21 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 20 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.

### 71% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 15 requests unmet.

For many survivors, the ability to hire an attorney to help with legal matters is critical. Unfortunately, lack of funds, few pro bono attorneys, and programs without legal attorneys on staff means that many victims face their abusers in court alone.

Below are the top 5 legal requests from survivors.

Child custody	93%
Protection orders	79%
Child support	71%
Divorce	64%
Housing	57%

The relationship between healthcare practitioners and domestic violence programs is necessary in order to meet survivors’ needs. In the past year domestic violence programs provided 38 trainings to health care professionals and received 125 of referrals from health care practitioners.

“Inadequate staff means that we are often unable to provide shelter for survivors. We need more resources: legal assistance, jobs, and affordable housing.”

