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Domestic Violence Counts Virginia Summary

On September 12, 2012, 50 out of 50, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Virginia participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

1,374 Victims Served in One Day

723 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.

651 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
Children’s Support or Advocacy	88%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	54%
Support/Advocacy to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	12%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	36%
Support/Advocacy to Victims of Trafficking	6%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	22%
Advocacy with the Military	4%
Job Training/Employment Assistant	34%

516 Hotline Calls Answered

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

639 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 639 individuals in communities across Virginia attended 30 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

146 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 140 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 104 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:

- 30% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 26% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 24% reported not enough staff.
- 8% reported not enough specialized services.
- 8% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

“We need more emergency shelters. With the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s move to provide less funding for shelter and more funding for rapid re-housing, domestic violence victims are suffering. There is not enough funding to rapidly re-house all victims of domestic violence and victims will have nowhere safe to go.”

