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Domestic Violence Counts Colorado Summary

On September 17, 2013, 36 out of 45 (80%), of identified local domestic violence programs in Colorado participated in the 2013 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 36 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

978 Victims Served in One Day

517 domestic violence victims (262 children and 255 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

461 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. 17
Individual Support or Advocacy	100%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	83%
Emergency Shelter	81%
Court Advocacy/Legal Accompaniment	58%
Group Support or Advocacy	53%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults	44%
Bilingual Advocacy	42%
Transportation	39%

361 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, local and state hotlines answered 361 calls, averaging more than 15 hotline calls every hour.

625 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 625 individuals in communities across the United States attended 32 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

205 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 76% (155) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 200 requests for services, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and nonresidential services, that could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to provide these services. The most frequently requested non-residential services that couldn’t be provided were housing advocacy, legal representation, and financial assistance.

Impact of Unmet Requests for Help

Domestic violence programs do not always know what happens when a survivor courageously calls a stranger to ask for a bed or other help and the services aren’t available; however 58% of programs report that victims return to their abuser, 19% report that victims become homeless, and 11% report that the families are end up living in their cars.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 22% reported reduced government funding.
- 14% reported reduced individual donations.
- 11% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 11% reported not enough staff.

Across Colorado 18 (4%) staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most of these positions were direct services, such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

“A woman, who was severely beaten by her abuser, was unable to return home because her perpetrator had been released from jail on a personal recognizance bond. In additional, while he was in custody, the jail didn’t serve him the protection order that she had applied for and was granted, so the protection order could not be enforced.”

— Advocate

