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Domestic Violence Counts Georgia Summary

On September 17, 2013, 35 out of 50 (70%), of identified local domestic violence programs in the Georgia participated in the 2013 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 35 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,975 Victims Served in One Day

1,011 domestic violence victims (562 children and 449 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

964 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
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	51%
Advocacy Related to Disability Issues	29%
Support/Advocacy to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	29%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	46%
Transitional Housing	46%
Emergency Shelter	97%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	100%
Bilingual Advocacy	37%

465 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 465 calls, averaging more than 19 hotline calls every minute.

368 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 368 individuals in communities across Georgia attended 20 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

248 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 65% (185) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 240 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, followed by financial assistance, and legal representation.

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 49% of programs report that victims return to their abuser, 20% report that victims become homeless, and 6% report that the families are end up living in their cars.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 37% reported reduced government funding.
- 14% reported reduced individual donations.
- 14% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 14% reported not enough staff.

Across Georgia, 23 (5%) 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 survivor shared that after some time in a shelter, she feels like she finally has the tools she needs to start her life over.”

— Advocate

