

# '13

## Domestic Violence Counts Hawaii Summary

On September 17, 2013, 16 out of 23 (70%), of identified local domestic violence programs in Hawaii participated in the 2013 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 16 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 575 Victims Served in One Day

217 domestic violence victims (97 children and 120 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

358 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	94%
Children's Support or Advocacy	88%
Group Support or Advocacy	69%
Emergency Shelter	56%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	50%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	44%
Childcare/Daycare	38%
Transportation	31%

### 113 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 113, averaging more than 5 hotline calls every hour.

### 116 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 116 individuals in communities across Hawaii attended 7 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 45 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 36% (16) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 40 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, counseling, and transportation.

### 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 44% of programs report that victims return to their abuser, 31% report that victims become homeless, and 31% report that the families are end up living in their cars.

### Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 19% reported reduced government funding.
- 6% reported reduced individual donations.

Across Hawaii, 9 (3%) 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 case manager from a homeless shelter called us to see if we had bed space for woman whose boyfriend comes to the homeless shelter and beats her. Unfortunately our shelter was full so we referred her to the other domestic violence shelters, although those shelters may also be full."

— Advocate

