

'13

Domestic Violence Counts North Dakota Summary

On September 17, 2013, 19 out of 20 (95%), of identified local domestic violence programs in North Dakota participated in the 2013 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 19 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

265 Victims Served in One Day

173 domestic violence victims (100 children and 73 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

92 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%
Emergency Shelter	58%
Transportation	42%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	32%
Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse	32%
Transitional Housing	26%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults (by a licensed practitioner)	16%
Legal Representation by Legal Representation	5%

90 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, domestic violence programs answered more than 4 hotline calls every hour.

39 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 39 individuals in communities across North Dakota attended 5 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

28 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 71% (20) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 25 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 service that couldn't be provided was housing advocacy, followed by legal representation, 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 42% of programs report that victims are forced to return to their abuser, 5% report that victims become homeless, and 11% report that the families are forced to live in their cars.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 21% reported reduced government funding.
- 5% reported private funding cuts.
- 5% reported not enough staff available.

Across North Dakota 4 (2%) 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.

We were unable to provide a survivor with gas cards to get her to her sister's home in another state. We could only fill her tank and then tried to set up other resources on her route so others could do the same. We used to be able to give survivors as many gas cards as necessary to get them where they were going so they would not have to stop and ask for help multiple times as they were trying to reach safety.

— Advocate

