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Domestic Violence Counts Oregon Summary

On September 17, 2013, 34 out of 48 (71%), of identified local domestic violence programs in Oregon participated in the 2013 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 34 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,187 Victims Served in One Day

538 domestic violence victims (271 children and 267 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

649 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	79%
Transportation	74%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	74%
Emergency Shelter	71%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	59%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	56%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	47%

442 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 18 hotline calls every hour.

490 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 490 individuals in communities across Oregon attended 18 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

312 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 67% (210) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 300 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 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 65% of programs report that victims are forced to return to their abuser, 50% report that victims become homeless, and 21% report that the families are forced to live in their cars.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 38% reported reduced government funding.
- 21% reported reduced individual donations.
- 18% reported private funding cuts.
- 18% reported not enough available staff.

Across Oregon 33 (9%) 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 called our 24-hour crisis line asking for emergency shelter. She was fleeing from her abuser, who had found her at her sister’s house and assaulted her so badly she ended up in the hospital. Unfortunately, we have no shelter space available, and she has nowhere to go.

— Advocate

