

'14

Domestic Violence Counts Georgia Summary

On September 10, 2014, 42 out of 50 (84%) identified local domestic violence programs in Georgia participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 42 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,883 Victims Served in One Day

1,132 domestic violence victims (653 children and 479 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

751 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. 10
Transportation	74%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	45%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	43%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	36%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	33%
Bilingual Advocacy	29%
Advocacy Related to Disability Issues	14%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	10%

502 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 502 calls, averaging more than 20 hotline calls every hour.

574 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 574 individuals in communities across Georgia attended 29 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

224 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 66% (148) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 220 requests for services, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and non-residential services, which could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to provide these services. The most frequently-needed service that couldn't be provided was housing, followed by financial assistance and legal representation.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 19% reported reduced government funding.
- 19% reported reduced individual donations.
- 14% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 7% reported not enough staff.

Across Georgia, 25 staff positions were eliminated in the past year; most of these positions were direct services (68%), such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help. Sixteen individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

"A victim was desperately seeking an attorney because she was terrified to represent herself against her abuser for her divorce. We were unable to find anyone to represent her for free and had no funds to pay an attorney to help her."

— Advocate

