

# '14

## Domestic Violence Counts Iowa Summary

On September 10, 2014, 22 out of 22 (100%) identified local domestic violence programs in Iowa participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 22 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 853 Victims Served in One Day

517 domestic violence victims (282 children and 235 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

336 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
Individual Support or Advocacy	100%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	86%
Emergency Shelter	64%
Transportation	64%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	64%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	59%
Rural Outreach	59%
Bilingual Advocacy	50%

### 255 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 255 calls, averaging more than 10 hotline calls every hour.

### 178 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 178 individuals in communities across Iowa attended 22 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 133 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 56% (74) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 125 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 transportation, legal representation, and financial assistance.

### Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 14% reported reduced government funding.
- 9% reported not enough staff.

Across Iowa, 18 staff positions were eliminated in the past year; most of these positions were direct services (89%), such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help. Twenty individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

“We received a call from a woman who was assaulted the day of the Census. She had a young daughter and was new to the area. She was very afraid and after the assault took place the client no longer had a place to stay. Through working with our staff, we were able to get this woman a three-night hotel stay in the area and provide her with additional support.”

— Advocate

