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Domestic Violence Counts Mississippi Summary

On September 10, 2014, 13 out of 13 (100%) identified local domestic violence programs in Mississippi participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 13 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

465 Victims Served in One Day

393 domestic violence victims (197 children and 196 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

72 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	92%
Transportation	54%
Transitional Housing	46%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	46%
Childcare/Daycare	38%
Rural Outreach	31%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	8%

181 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 181 calls, averaging more than 7 hotline calls every hour.

414 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 414 individuals in communities across Mississippi attended 13 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

6 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made 6 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 counseling and financial assistance.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 38% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 31% reported reduced individual donations.
- 23% reported reduced government funding.
- 15% reported not enough staff.

Across Mississippi, 7 staff positions were eliminated in the past year; most of these positions were direct services (100%, such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help. Twenty-one individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

"We were able to advocate for a family who was a victim of gun violence perpetrated by the child's father. The family was relocated to another state for safety; however, court advocacy services continue. On this day, we coordinated with the DA's office to assist the victim in preparing to testify in an upcoming hearing. We also worked with the Victim Compensation Division to financially assist the victim with the travel expenses associated with her cooperation with the prosecution."

— Advocate

