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Domestic Violence Counts Ohio Summary

On September 10, 2014, 68 out of 68 (100%) identified local domestic violence programs in Ohio participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 68 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,839 Victims Served in One Day

943 domestic violence victims (481 children and 462 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

896 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	99%
Children's Support or Advocacy	78%
Emergency Shelter	74%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	69%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	37%
Transitional Housing	24%
Financial Skills/Budgeting	12%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	7%

659 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 659 calls, averaging more than 27 hotline calls every hour.

604 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 604 individuals in communities across Ohio attended 31 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

249 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 37% (92) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 240 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 legal representation.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 22% reported reduced government funding.
- 13% reported reduced individual donations.
- 13% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 13% reported not enough staff.

Across Ohio, 30 staff positions were eliminated in the past year; most of these positions were direct services (80%), such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help. Twenty-eight individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

"A caller who was 5 months pregnant and had 2 additional children at home phoned into our hotline because she was being severely emotionally and financially abused by her husband. She sounded afraid and it was obvious that this was her first attempt at seeking help. Her husband had been withholding basic necessities from her and the children. She said she had very little food and that he never gave her any money to buy household goods. We discussed shelter and legal advocacy as well as long-term housing options for her and her children. I could hear her voice change from scared to relieved as she discovered that there was help available. I am hopeful that she will turn to our agency when she is ready and that she will rest easier knowing that she has help available."

— Advocate

