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Domestic Violence Counts Rhode Island Summary

On September 10, 2014, 6 out of 6 (100%) identified local domestic violence programs in Rhode Island participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 6 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

323 Victims Served in One Day

118 domestic violence victims (65 children and 53 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

205 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%
Emergency Shelter	100%
Transitional Housing	83%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	83%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	67%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	67%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	67%
Group Support or Advocacy	50%

102 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 102 calls, averaging more than 4 hotline calls every hour.

95 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 95 individuals in communities across Rhode Island attended 3 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

110 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 88% (97) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 100 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 and financial assistance.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 83% reported reduced government funding.
- 50% reported not enough staff.
- 33% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 17% reported reduced individual donations.

Across Rhode Island, 5 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. Seven individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

“We had a client who spent three months in our shelter. She then moved into our transitional housing program with her three children. While in our transitional housing, she started a job training program. She completed her job training program. On Census Day, she had her first paycheck at her new job. She also learned that because she had scored so high on her test, she would be given a scholarship for the EMT program. She is very excited to become an EMT.”

— Advocate

