

# '14

## Domestic Violence Counts Virginia Summary

On September 10, 2014, 49 out of 49 (100%) identified local domestic violence programs in Virginia participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 49 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 1,412 Victims Served in One Day

847 domestic violence victims (424 children and 423 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

565 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
Children's Support or Advocacy	88%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	55%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	49%
Bilingual Advocacy	24%
Support/Advocacy to Elder Victims of Abuse	22%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	22%
Support/Advocacy to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	12%
Support/Advocacy to Victims of Trafficking	4%

### 558 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 558 calls, averaging more than 23 hotline calls every hour.

### 730 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 730 individuals in communities across Virginia attended 29 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 281 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 75% (211) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 280 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 legal representation.

### Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 29% reported reduced government funding.
- 18% reported reduced individual donations.
- 16% reported not enough staff.
- 6% reported cuts from private funding sources.

Across Virginia, 14 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. Fifty-six individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

"A local doctor called our shelter seeking help. He had a mom and her children in the office. When she was alone with the doctor, she began disclosing that she was in an abusive relationship and wanted to get out. We safety planned with her and worked with the health care provider and police to transport her and her children safely to the shelter."

— Advocate

