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Domestic Violence Counts Vermont Summary

On September 10, 2014, 12 out of 12 (100%) identified local domestic violence programs in Vermont participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 12 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

323 Victims Served in One Day

167 domestic violence victims (78 children and 89 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

156 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 |
|---|----------|
| Emergency Shelter | 67% |
| Children's Support or Advocacy | 58% |
| Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy | 58% |
| Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord | 50% |
| Advocacy Related to Mental Health | 42% |
| Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs | 42% |
| Advocacy Related to Disability Issues | 25% |
| Advocacy Related to Immigration | 17% |

101 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 101 calls, averaging more than 4 hotline calls every hour.

19 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 19 individuals in communities across Vermont attended 2 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

20 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 45% (9) Were for Housing

Victims made 20 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 and legal representation.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 50% reported reduced government funding.
- 33% reported not enough staff.
- 33% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 25% reported reduced individual donations.

Across Vermont, 19 staff positions were eliminated in the past year; most of these positions were direct services (85%), such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help. Thirty-nine individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

"During this Census Day, a survivor of domestic violence was able to come into shelter, obtain a temporary RFA, gain assistance for clothing, needed personal items, phone access and food. She arrived via transportation from a police officer and essentially the clothing on her back."

— Advocate

