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Domestic Violence Counts Washington Summary

On September 10, 2014, 54 out of 63 (86%) identified local domestic violence programs in Washington participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 54 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,930 Victims Served in One Day

1,026 domestic violence victims (570 children and 456 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

904 adults and children received advocacy and services other than shelter, including individual support and counseling, legal advocacy, help finding or retaining permanent housing, 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	94%
Emergency Shelter	78%
Children's Support or Advocacy	67%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	56%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	43%
Bilingual Advocacy	43%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	35%
Support/Advocacy to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	17%

603 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 603 calls, averaging more than 25 hotline calls every hour.

642 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 642 individuals in communities across Washington attended 14 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

549 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 89% (489) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 540 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.
- 20% reported not enough staff.
- 19% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 9% reported reduced individual donations.

Across Washington, 48 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. Seventy individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

"A mother with 5 children had experienced ongoing abuse and had challenges finding adequate and affordable housing for her family. She had no source of income. When fleeing her abuser, she had to leave behind birth certificates and Social Security cards, which she needed to apply for housing. With help from our case manager, supportive community agencies and family members, she got her documents back, received TANF, began seeking employment, and was accepted for permanent housing. She and her children moved out of our shelter into their new three-bedroom home."

— Advocate

