

Domestic Violence Counts:07

On September 25, 2007, 22 out of 24, or 92%, of identified domestic violence programs in Maryland participated in the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent information from the 22 participating programs about services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

859 VICTIMS SERVED IN ONE DAY

- 311 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
- 548 adults and children received non-residential services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children’s support groups.
- In just one day, 91% of local programs provided individual counseling or advocacy but only 27% were able to provide transitional housing. Other services provided by programs include:

91%	Individual Counseling or Advocacy
82%	Legal Accompaniment/ Services
68%	Emergency Shelter
64%	Children’s Counseling/ Advocacy
59%	Group Counseling or Advocacy
41%	Advocacy with Social Services
32%	Childcare
27%	Transitional Housing

139 UNMET REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

Due to a lack of resources, many programs in Maryland reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as housing, childcare, mental health and substance abuse counseling, and legal representation.

NOT ENOUGH STAFF

Programs reported that lack of staffing was a reason that they could not meet victims’ requests for services. 64% of programs have fewer than 20 paid staff, and 23% of those programs have fewer than 10 paid staff.

392 HOTLINE CALLS ANSWERED

Domestic violence hotlines are a life line for victims in danger. Domestic violence program staff in Maryland answered more than 16 hotline calls every hour, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

2,836 PEOPLE TRAINED

Individuals across Maryland attended community education and trainings, gaining much needed information on prevention and early intervention.

A young pregnant mother of two children was pushed out of her partner’s car and left on the street in a totally unfamiliar community. A family was denied a peace order at District Court, prompting them to seek walk-in services at our agency.

We have no funding available to provide clients with low-cost or pro bono family court attorneys. We also desperately need transitional housing so that the emergency shelter can handle more emergencies.