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Domestic Violence Counts Arkansas Summary

On September 15, 2010, 34 out of 36, or 94%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Arkansas participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 34 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

454 Victims Served in One Day

310 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

144 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual 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. 15
Individual Support or Advocacy	88%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	82%
Group Support or Advocacy	47%
Children's Support or Advocacy	44%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	41%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	32%
Transitional Housing	21%
Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse	18%

183 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, domestic violence programs answered more than 8 hotline calls every hour.

100 Unmet Requests for Services

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation. Of these unmet requests, 40 (40%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 38% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 24% reported not enough staff.
- 18% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 15% reported not enough specialized services.
- 12% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

82% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 82% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 47% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

"We were able to provide legal advocacy and emergency shelter to a victim who had attempted suicide because she believed that suicide was the only way she could end the abuse."