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Domestic Violence Counts California Summary

On September 15, 2011, 97 out of 100, or 97%, of identified local domestic violence programs in California participated in the 2011 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 97 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

5,363 Victims Served in One Day

2,822 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs. In addition to a safe place to lay their heads at night, shelter residents were provided with a variety of comprehensive services, some of which are listed in the chart below.

2,541 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
Children's Support or Advocacy	93%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	86%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	54%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	49%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	42%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	34%
Advocacy/Support to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	20%

1,283 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, California programs answered more than 53 hotline calls every hour.

924 Unmet Requests for Services

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services such as transportation, childcare, language translation, mental health and substance abuse counseling, and legal representation.

66% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

With 612 unmet requests, emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs. Other frequently requested unmet needs include legal representation, counseling, and legal advocacy.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 37% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 34% reported not enough staff.
- 30% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 23% reported not enough specialized services.
- 10% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"A victim called because her husband, who was on parole for assaulting her, violated the no contact order. She saw her husband that day sighting her with a rifle, and learned that he had purchased a shotgun a few days prior. He has threatened to show up at her workplace to 'come get her.'"

