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Domestic Violence Counts New Mexico Summary

On September 15, 2011, 22 out of 29, or 76%, of identified local domestic violence programs in New Mexico participated in the 2011 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 22 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

686 Victims Served in One Day

476 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.

210 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	95%
Children's Support or Advocacy	77%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels or safe houses)	68%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	55%
Transportation	55%
Bilingual Advocacy (services by someone who is bilingual)	50%
Transitional Housing	41%

100 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, New Mexico programs answered more than 4 hotline calls every hour.

24 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.

67% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

With 16 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:

- 45% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 27% reported not enough staff.
- 23% reported not enough specialized services.
- 14% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 5% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"A client shared with her advocate, 'I put up with the abuse because I was always scared that he would take my baby. He always threatened that he would call immigration and have me deported, and he would keep my baby.'"

