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Domestic Violence Counts New York Summary

On September 15, 2011, 66 out of 89, or 74%, of identified local domestic violence programs in New York participated in the 2011 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 66 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

4,572 Victims Served in One Day

2,264 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.

2,308 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
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	39%
Transitional Housing	27%
Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse	20%
Medical Services/Accompaniment	20%
Advocacy/Support to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	18%
Translation/Interpretation Services	18%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	15%
Advocacy Related to Technology (Cyberstalking)	12%

1,478 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 York programs answered more than 1 hotline call every minute.

449 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.

49% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

With 219 unmet requests, emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be urgent unmet needs. Other frequently requested unmet needs include legal representation, counseling, and legal advocacy.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 39% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 38% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 30% reported not enough staff.
- 15% reported not enough specialized services.
- 12% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"Today we shared in the joy of the birth of a baby to one client, the success of one client in her newly found employment, and that of another who secured safe, affordable housing. We also shared in the fear and frustration around one client's pending custody hearing. We lamented that another client was unable to secure funding to return to her family and support system in her home country. Finally, we anxiously awaited the results of an exam that would open doors to employment for another client. Every day in our shelter is a roller coaster of emotions for both our clients and ourselves, and not one of us would choose to do any other work!"

