

# '11

## Domestic Violence Counts Rhode Island Summary

On September 15, 2011, 6 out of 6, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Rhode Island participated in the 2011 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

### 190 Victims Served in One Day

104 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.

86 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	100%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	100%
Group Support or Advocacy	67%
Transitional Housing	67%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	67%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	50%
Advocacy/Support to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	33%
Financial Skills/Budgeting	17%

### 65 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, Rhode Island programs answered more than 2 hotline calls every hour.

### 29 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.

### 86% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

With 25 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:

- 83% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 33% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 33% reported not enough staff.
- 17% reported not enough specialized services.

“In our support group this morning, a client who was in dire need of housing learned that we have a transitional housing program. Now she and her four children have a place to live. That evening, our transitional housing clients participated in a creative writing group, where the writing exercise helped a client recognize how her abuser had controlled her by controlling all of their money.”

