

# '11

## Domestic Violence Counts South Carolina Summary

On September 15, 2011, 12 out of 13, or 92%, of identified local domestic violence programs in South Carolina participated in the 2011 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 12 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 409 Victims Served in One Day

251 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.

158 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	92%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	92%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	58%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults (by a licensed practitioner)	33%
Transitional Housing	25%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	25%
Bilingual Advocacy (services by someone who is bilingual)	25%
Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse	17%

### 159 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, South Carolina programs answered more than 6 hotline calls every hour.

### 21 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.

### 95% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

With 20 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:

- 🏠 50% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 🏠 25% reported not enough specialized services.
- 🏠 17% reported not enough staff.
- 🏠 8% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.

"A woman staying in shelter with her children had been married to a man in the military. Military personnel were in support of the abuser and tried to intimidate the victim. She came to us broken, beaten, and afraid. She left thanking us, stating she wanted to go to school so she could help others like her. She volunteered to be an interpreter to show her gratitude. She stated that without our help, she didn't know where she would have gone."

