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Domestic Violence Counts Washington Summary

On September 15, 2011, 52 out of 60, or 87%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Washington participated in the 2011 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 52 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,884 Victims Served in One Day

1,080 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.

804 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	98%
Children's Support or Advocacy	83%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	75%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	60%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF	58%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	52%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	48%
Advocacy/Support to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	13%

749 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, Washington programs answered more than 31 hotline calls every hour.

502 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.

79% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

With 398 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:

- 38% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 35% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 17% reported not enough specialized services.
- 35% reported not enough staff.
- 8% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"In just the first eight months of 2011 we sheltered, served, and relocated 114% more adults and children than we did in the same period of 2010. 2010 had been one of our busiest years ever until now."

