



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS REPORT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SUMMARY

On September 10, 2020, 16 out of 16 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in the District of Columbia participated in a national count of domestic violence services conducted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV). Services provided by domestic violence programs looked different in 2020, as frontline advocates navigated unforeseen challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises. The following figures represent the information shared by the participating programs about the services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

933 Victims Served in One Day

507 adult and child victims of domestic violence found refuge in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or other housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

426 adult and child victims received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, children’s support groups, and more.

Table 1: Services Provided on 9/10/20	% of Programs Providing Services
Bilingual Advocacy	44%
Support/Advocacy Related to Mental Health	38%
Transitional or Other Housing	31%
Court Accompaniment or Legal Advocacy	13%

138 Hotline Contacts Received

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources via phone, chat, text, and/or email. During the 24-hour survey period, hotline staff in the District of Columbia received 138 contacts, averaging 6 contacts per hour.

❖ “We stand in solidarity with BIPOC and ask our white partners and supporters to commit to being allies, to challenge white supremacy, to work with a racial equity lens, and to listen and educate yourselves. We work together to ensure that ‘home’ is safe for all survivors.”

7 Individuals Attended Prevention and Educational Trainings

Community education is essential to raising awareness about domestic violence and the resources that are available to victims, while promoting prevention strategies. On the survey day, local domestic violence programs educated 7 individuals in communities across the District of Columbia. Advocates provided 2 trainings that addressed domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more.

52 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made 52 requests for services—including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, legal representation, and more—that could not be provided because programs lacked the resources to meet victims’ needs. Approximately 37 percent of these unmet requests were for housing or emergency shelter.

Greatly increased funding would enable domestic violence programs to provide comprehensive services to all survivors seeking help and to prevent violence in their communities.