



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS REPORT MONTANA SUMMARY

On September 10, 2020, 14 out of 20 (70%) identified domestic violence programs in Montana 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.

457 Victims Served in One Day

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

201 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
Emergency Shelter	55%
Support/Advocacy Related to Housing/Landlord	25%
Transitional or Other Housing	25%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	25%

107 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 Montana received 107 contacts, averaging 5 contacts per hour.

58 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 58 individuals in communities across Montana. Advocates provided 5 trainings that addressed domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more.

12 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made 12 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 75 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.

❖ “The increase in demand for shelter has left our organization searching for ways to pay off our mortgage and provide additional apartments for survivors. COVID-19 has reduced the amount of funding we receive from donors, and we fear this will continue.”