



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS REPORT RHODE ISLAND SUMMARY

On September 10, 2020, 6 out of 6 (**100%**) identified domestic violence programs in Rhode Island 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.

584 Victims Served in One Day

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

299 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
Children’s Support or Advocacy	83%
Bilingual Advocacy	67%
Support/Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	50%
Court Accompaniment or Legal Advocacy	33%

109 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 Rhode Island received 109 contacts, averaging 5 contacts per hour.

4 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 4 individuals in communities across Rhode Island. Advocates provided 1 training 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 58 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.

❖ **“COVID-19 has underlined both the importance of domestic violence services and the inadequacy of current funding to address the scope of survivors’ needs—including housing, legal services, transportation, and more.”**