



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS REPORT VIRGINIA SUMMARY

On September 10, 2020, 52 out of 62 (84%) identified domestic violence programs in Virginia 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.

1,344 Victims Served in One Day

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

641 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	61%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	42%
Court Accompaniment or Legal Advocacy	42%
Bilingual Advocacy	31%

606 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 Virginia received 606 contacts, averaging 25 contacts per hour.

113 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 113 individuals in communities across Virginia. Advocates provided 19 trainings that addressed domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more.

109 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made 109 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 77 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 pandemic has highlighted the inequities in this country for survivors from vulnerable communities. They are not only experiencing violence and isolation, but limited internet access, language barriers, a lack of childcare and safe jobs, injustice within the justice system, little to no affordable housing, and more.”