On September 10, 2020, 14 out of 14 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in West 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.

271 Victims Served in One Day
148 adult and child victims of domestic violence found refuge in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or other housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

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

164 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 West Virginia received 164 contacts, averaging 7 contacts per hour.

1 Individual 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 1 individual in West Virginia. Advocates provided 1 training that addressed domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more.

51 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day
Victims made 51 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 92 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.

“On the survey day, one survivor found out she and her child had tested positive for COVID-19. Our advocates gathered the food, baby supplies, and cleaning items she would need while quarantining and set up daily check-ins with her. She told us: ‘Thank you so much for all that you do. I don’t feel like I’m doing this alone now.’”