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Domestic Violence Counts New Jersey Summary

On September 16, 2015, 28 out of 28 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in New Jersey participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 28 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,216 Victims Served in One Day

543 domestic violence victims (305 children and 238 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

673 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children’s support groups.

This chart shows the percentage of programs that provided the following services on the Census Day.

Services Provided by Local Programs:	Sept. 16
Individual Support or Advocacy	96%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	93%
Emergency Shelter	68%
Transitional or Other Housing Program (run by DV program)	57%
Support/Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	57%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	50%
Support/Advocacy Related to Housing/Landlord	36%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	18%

607 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources. In the 24-hour survey period, domestic violence programs answered more than 25 hotline calls every hour.

140 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 140 individuals in communities across New Jersey attended 15 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

122 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 39% Were for Housing

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services. In addition to housing and emergency shelter, programs reported that of the service requests they could not meet, Attorney/Legal Representation, Rental Assistance/Utilities, and Cash Assistance/Financial Assistance services were most in demand.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across New Jersey, 23 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 🏠 29% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 🏠 11% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.
- 🏠 11% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 🏠 11% of programs reported fewer individual donations.

Across New Jersey, 26 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most (89%) of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

“Many of the calls we received on the Census Day were callers in need of housing assistance. They requested assistance with paying utilities or their rent. These were callers who were not eligible for social services or who had maxed out their eligibility. We were unable to provide any assistance.”

— Advocate

