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Domestic Violence Counts Vermont Summary

On September 16, 2015, 11 out of 11 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Vermont participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 11 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

370 Victims Served in One Day

194 domestic violence victims (79 children and 115 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

176 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
Support/Advocacy Related to Housing/Landlord	64%
Children's Support or Advocacy	64%
Support/Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	55%
Support/Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	45%
Safe Exchange/Visitation	36%
Support/Advocacy Related to Disability Issues	27%
Support/Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse	27%
Support/Advocacy for LGBTQ Victims of Abuse	18%

109 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 4 hotline calls every hour.

107 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 107 individuals in communities across Vermont attended 9 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

53 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 47% 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, Cash Assistance/Financial Assistance and Rental Assistance/Utilities services were most in demand.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across Vermont, 8 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 18% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.
- 9% of programs reported government funding cuts.

Across Vermont, 3 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and all of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

"A mother and young child called our hotline after dark. They had fled their home and were calling from the side of the road in a different town. They had nowhere to stay that night. Our shelter was full along with the area homeless shelter. Our hotline worker was able to coordinate a safe motel stay for this mom and child."

— Advocate