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Domestic Violence Counts District of Columbia Summary

On September 15, 2010, 11 out of 11, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in District of Columbia participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

407 Victims Served in One Day

257 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

150 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual 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. 15
Individual Support or Advocacy	73%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	45%
Financial Skills/Budgeting	36%
Transitional Housing	27%
Advocacy/Support to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	27%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	27%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	27%
Bilingual Advocacy (services by a bilingual advocate)	27%

42 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 2 hotline calls every hour.

37 Unmet Requests for Services

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation. Of these unmet requests, 29 (78%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 82% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 64% reported not enough staff.
- 27% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 18% reported not enough specialized services.
- 18% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

91% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 91% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 73% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

“Because she could not afford an attorney during her divorce, a survivor we worked with did not receive any alimony or child support, leaving her with no money for food or shelter for herself or her children.”

