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Domestic Violence Counts Florida Summary

On September 15, 2010, 42 out of 42, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Florida participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

3,353 Victims Served in One Day

2,057 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

1,296 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
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	98%
Individual Support or Advocacy	98%
Children's Support or Advocacy	76%
Group Support or Advocacy	71%
Transportation	67%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	67%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	62%
Bilingual Advocacy (services by a bilingual advocate)	60%

719 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 30 hotline calls every hour.

182 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, 90 (49%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 48% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 40% reported not enough staff.
- 31% reported not enough specialized services.
- 21% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.

83% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 83% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 83% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

"A survivor and her children happily reunited with their dog and two cats after they were relocated to a safe place. The pets had been at a donated kennel stay with free medical care. The kids are thrilled to be reunited with their pets."

