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Domestic Violence Counts Maine Summary

On September 15, 2010, 10 out of 10, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Maine participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

511 Victims Served in One Day

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

229 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	100%
Transitional Housing	90%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	80%
Children's Support or Advocacy	70%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	70%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	50%
Rural Outreach	50%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	40%

120 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 5 hotline calls every hour.

16 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, 9 (56%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 50% reported not enough staff.
- 30% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 20% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 20% reported not enough specialized services.

90% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 90% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 60% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

"A victim was able to escape her abuser. We helped her obtain an order of protection from abuse to keep her and her daughter safe. We'll continue helping her to move forward."

