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Domestic Violence Counts Virginia Summary

On September 15, 2010, 48 out of 48, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Virginia participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

1,327 Victims Served in One Day

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

604 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)	83%
Children's Support or Advocacy	77%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	58%
Bilingual Advocacy (services by a bilingual advocate)	31%
Transitional Housing	31%
Job Training/Employment Assistance	29%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	23%
Advocacy/Support to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	19%

606 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.

359 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, 166 (46%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 40% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 38% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 27% reported not enough specialized services.
- 27% reported not enough staff.
- 10% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

85% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 85% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 83% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

"After months of worrying, a survivor decided not to go back to her abuser. She now believes that the options and resources available to her and her family are better than returning to her abuser."

