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Domestic Violence Counts Wisconsin Summary

On September 15, 2010, 58 out of 72, or 81%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Wisconsin participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 58 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,499 Victims Served in One Day

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

712 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 | 88% |
| Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses) | 57% |
| Children's Support or Advocacy | 53% |
| Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy | 36% |
| Group Support or Advocacy | 34% |
| Job Training/Employment Assistance | 24% |
| Financial Skills/Budgeting | 19% |
| Advocacy/Support to Teen Victims of Dating Violence | 10% |

511 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 21 hotline calls every hour.

146 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, 101 (69%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 31% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 24% reported not enough staff.
- 16% reported not enough specialized services.
- 12% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 7% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

74% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 74% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 66% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

"When she first entered shelter, this survivor was really quiet and withdrawn. But after a few days of working with our staff and establishing her needs and goals, it was as if she was a new person. She was smiling and happy. She stated, 'I feel confident. I feel safe, and I know I'm in the right place.'"

