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Domestic Violence Counts Pennsylvania Summary

On September 15, 2010, 61 out of 61, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Pennsylvania participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

2,321 Victims Served in One Day

1,034 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

1,287 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	98%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	85%
Children's Support or Advocacy	72%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	62%
Transitional Housing	52%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	39%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	28%
Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse	25%

959 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 39 hotline calls every hour.

254 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, 184 (72%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 43% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 36% reported not enough staff.
- 26% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 20% reported not enough specialized services.
- 13% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

69% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 69% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 90% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

"An abuser attempted to murder his wife and child by running them over with his car. After spending 13 days in jail, he was released on bond. Despite a no-contact order, he was waiting at the child's bus stop the next day."

