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Domestic Violence Counts South Dakota Summary

On September 15, 2010, 21 out of 37, or 57%, of identified local domestic violence programs in South Dakota participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 21 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

477 Victims Served in One Day

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

265 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	95%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	76%
Transportation	67%
Children's Support or Advocacy	52%
Rural Outreach	38%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	33%
Group Support or Advocacy	19%
Advocacy/Support to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	10%

155 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 6 hotline calls every hour.

106 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, 98 (92%) 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.
- 29% reported not enough staff.
- 29% reported not enough specialized services.
- 19% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 10% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

86% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 86% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 76% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

"On the survey day, we were happy to be able to get the electricity turned on for two survivors so they and their children now have a safe place to live. Unfortunately, we didn't have room for another survivor and her baby, but we were able to put them in a hotel room for the night."

