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Domestic Violence Counts West Virginia Summary

On September 10, 2014, 14 out of 14 (100%) identified local domestic violence programs in West Virginia participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 14 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

306 Victims Served in One Day

113 domestic violence victims (54 children and 59 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

193 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including 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. 10 |
|---|----------|
| Individual Support or Advocacy | 100% |
| Emergency Shelter | 93% |
| Children's Support or Advocacy | 93% |
| Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy | 86% |
| Rural Outreach | 64% |
| Transportation | 43% |
| Support/Advocacy to Elder Victims of Abuse | 43% |
| Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs | 36% |

119 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, local and state hotlines answered 119 calls, averaging 4 hotline calls every hour.

82 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 82 individuals in communities across West Virginia attended 5 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

9 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 22% (2) Were for Housing

Victims made 9 requests for services, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and non-residential services, which could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to provide these services. The most frequently-needed service that couldn't be provided was legal representation, followed by housing.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 14% reported reduced government funding.
- 14% reported not enough staff.

Across West Virginia, 16 staff positions were eliminated in the past year; most of these positions were direct services (83%), such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help. Thirteen individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

"One survivor that received services today is one step closer to obtaining affordable housing for herself and her three children. This particular survivor is an immigrant who has a language barrier. Because of the services she is receiving, she will become more self-sufficient when she exits the shelter to be on her own."

— Advocate

