



If you need help or just someone to talk to call:
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Survey Presents Snapshot of Domestic Violence Services in the U.S.

East Hartford, CT - A new survey conducted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) reveals telling information about domestic violence services in the United States.

In one 24-hour period, 1,125 victims of domestic violence and their children across Connecticut received vital services from local domestic violence organizations. 294 domestic violence victims found safe refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by their local domestic violence program. An additional 831 adults and children received services, including counseling, legal advocacy and children's support groups. At the same time, 47 requests for needs were unmet. A full copy of the Connecticut summary is available online at www.ctcadv.org.

"CCADV member programs continue to provide services to families affected by intimate partner violence on limited funds and meet the immediate needs of victims who come to them for assistance. But let's be clear: not all who seek services will receive the help they need. Given that domestic violence continues to pervade our society; it is time for a new orientation toward prevention. Earlier and effective intervention with a focus on a continuum of comprehensive services offers more promise for putting an end to the problem," said Erika Tindill, Esq. Executive Director of CCADV.

Though an economic downturn does not cause domestic violence, factors associated with economic uncertainties can increase the severity and frequency of abuse. At the same time, options for survivors to escape can be more limited. More than 80 percent of local domestic violence programs reported an increased demand for their services while nearly the same number reported decreases in funding.

"The economy is exacerbating domestic violence, and victim advocates across the country are struggling to do more with less," said Sue Else, president of NNEDV. "Despite the immense challenges, local programs are providing life-saving services to so many survivors of domestic and sexual violence."

Each year, NNEDV conducts a 24-hour survey of local domestic violence programs. On September 15, 2010, despite the difficulty to raise funds, domestic violence programs nationwide provided services to more than 70,000 adults and children in one day alone. Other national data include:

- More than 929 crisis hotline calls were answered every hour.
- More than 9,500 requests for services went unmet, mostly due to funding shortfalls.
- More than 30,000 individuals attended 1,240 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs to help prevent violence and intervene early in cases of abuse.

Across the nation on September 15, 2010, three women were murdered by their intimate partners. Thirty-six babies were born to mothers living in domestic violence shelters. Three-hundred-ninety-one survivors started new jobs. Three men committed suicide - one after murdering his wife, another after a failed attempt to kill his girlfriend, and the third after holding his partner hostage and a standoff with the police.

In 2010, 1,746 local domestic violence programs, or 91 percent, submitted their 24-hour counts for September 15. 15 out of 16, or 94% of programs in Connecticut participated in the survey. The full National Domestic Violence Counts 2010 are available online at <http://www.nnedv.org/census>.

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Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Inc. (CCADV), is a statewide 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that works to change social conditions through policy advocacy, public awareness, technical assistance and education. The current membership of the CCADV includes private, non-profit agencies providing services to victims of domestic violence which include but are not limited to safety planning, short-term counseling and support groups, information and referrals, advocacy, emergency shelter, children's programs and community education and training. To learn more about CCADV, please visit www.ctcadv.org.

NNEDV, a 501(c)(3) organization, is a leading voice for domestic violence victims and their allies. Its members include the 56 state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence. It works closely with them to understand the needs of domestic violence victims and advocacy programs. NNEDV has been a premiere national organization advancing the movement against domestic violence for the past 15 years, after leading efforts among domestic violence advocates and survivors in urging Congress to pass the landmark Violence Against Women Act of 1994. To learn more about NNEDV, please visit www.nnedv.org.

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