# '13 Domestic Violence Counts Connecticut Summary

On September 17, 2013, 14 out of 15 (93%), of identified local domestic violence programs in the Connecticut participated in the 2013 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.

### 855 Victims Served in One Day

303 domestic violence victims (104 children and 199 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

552 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. 17 |
|---|---|
| Emergency Shelter | 86% |
| Children's Support or Advocacy | 86% |
| Court Advocacy/Legal Accompaniment | 71% |
| Bilingual Advocacy | 57% |
| Individual Support/Advocacy | 93% |
| Translation/Interpretation Services | 43% |
| Support/Advocacy to Teen Victims of Domestic Violence | 43% |
| Safe Houses | 21% |

### 183 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 183 calls, averaging more than 8 hotline calls every hour.

### 209 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 209 individuals in communities across Connecticut attended 12 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 103 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 95% (98) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 100 requests for services, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and nonresidential services, that could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to provide these services. The most frequently requested non-residential services that couldn't be provided were housing advocacy and financial assistance, followed by legal representation.

### Impact of Unmet Requests for Help

Domestic violence programs do not always know what happens when a survivor courageously calls a stranger to ask for a bed or other help and the services aren't available; however 36% of programs report that victims return to their abuser and 7% report that victims become homeless.

### Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 14% reported not enough staff.
- 7% reported reduced government funding.

Across Connecticut, 10 (3%) staff positions were eliminated in the past year; most of these positions were direct services, such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

> "An immigrant survivor, married in her country to a man from the US, has been isolated and abused since coming here. She is ineligible for government assistance for food, healthcare or housing because she has only been here for 2.5 years. Although she has been working to improve her English, finding work has been difficult. Going back to her country isn't an option because she fears she would be killed for leaving her abusive marriage."
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> — Advocate