

'11

Domestic Violence Counts Connecticut Summary

On September 15, 2011, 18 out of 18, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Connecticut participated in the 2011 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

758 Victims Served in One Day

262 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs. In addition to a safe place to lay their heads at night, shelter residents were provided with a variety of comprehensive services, some of which are listed in the chart below.

496 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	100%
Children's Support or Advocacy	94%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels or safe houses)	76%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	76%
Bilingual Advocacy (services by someone who is bilingual)	71%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	71%
Group Support or Advocacy	65%

204 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, Connecticut programs answered more than 8 hotline calls every hour.

56 Unmet Requests for Services

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services such as transportation, childcare, language translation, mental health and substance abuse counseling, and legal representation.

86% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

With 48 unmet requests, emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs. Other frequently requested unmet needs include legal representation, counseling, and legal advocacy.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 35% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 29% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 29% reported not enough specialized services.
- 24% reported not enough staff.
- 18% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"This evening we received a crisis call from a 23 year-old woman whose boyfriend had assaulted her when she told him she was leaving. He stood on her feet so she could not leave and punched her. She was able to break away and call the police, who came and helped her get to the emergency room. She had a fractured ankle from the violent attack, but we were able to shelter her and her infant son in a physically accessible room."

