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Domestic Violence Counts Tennessee Summary

On September 15, 2010, 32 out of 32, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Tennessee participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

1,002 Victims Served in One Day

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

569 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	97%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	81%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	66%
Children's Support or Advocacy	56%
Transportation	53%
Transitional Housing	41%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	41%
Rural Outreach	41%

367 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 15 hotline calls every hour.

68 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, 56 (82%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 34% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 25% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 16% reported not enough staff.
- 13% reported not enough specialized services.
- 6% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

75% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 75% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 81% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

"We provided support and education to the Blue Cross Blue Shield in responding to a domestic violence murder in their community. They have over 4,000 employees and have made a commitment to raise awareness of domestic violence and respond to victims in their work force."

