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Domestic Violence Counts Nebraska Summary

On September 17, 2013, 22 out of 22 (100%), of identified local domestic violence programs in Nebraska participated in the 2013 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 22 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

532 Victims Served in One Day

235 domestic violence victims (135 children and 100 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

297 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
Individual Support or Advocacy	100%
Children's Support or Advocacy	86%
Emergency Shelter	68%
Transportation	64%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	50%
Bilingual Advocacy	41%
Rural Outreach	41%
Medical Services/Accompaniment	9%

299 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 12 hotline calls every hour.

268 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 268 individuals in communities across Nebraska attended 14 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

257 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 40% (102) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 250 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 service that couldn't be provided was housing advocacy, followed by financial assistance, and 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 68% of programs report that victims are forced to return to their abuser, 18% report that victims become homeless, and 9% report that the families are forced to live in their cars.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 32% reported reduced government funding.
- 18% reported not enough available staff.
- 9% reported private funding cuts.
- 9% reported reduced individual donations.

Across Nebraska 30 (10%) staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most of these positions were direct services, such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

As a result of collaborations with law enforcement, when a perpetrator is arrested for a domestic assault, the officer calls an advocate from our agency. On the survey day, law enforcement phoned to make a referral. The advocate contacted the victim and she was able to use our walk-in services to fill out a domestic abuse protection order. The advocate was able to go with her to file this order; it was granted and served before the perpetrator went to arraignment. The victim was unfamiliar with our services prior to our outreach and couldn't thank us enough.

— Advocate

