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Domestic Violence Counts Illinois Summary

On September 15, 2010, 57 out of 58, or 98%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Illinois participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 57 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

2,011 Victims Served in One Day

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

1,197 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
Children's Support or Advocacy	74%
Transitional Housing	40%
Job Training/Employment Assistance	30%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	28%
Financial Skills/Budgeting	28%
Childcare/Daycare	21%
Translation/Interpretation Services (3rd party translator with advocate)	9%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	4%

1,031 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 43 hotline calls every hour.

398 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, 180 (45%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 44% reported not enough staff.
- 35% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 25% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 18% reported not enough specialized services.
- 12% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

74% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 74% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 91% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

"A victim, whose estranged husband threatens to kill her daily, has access to multiple guns in their home, and drinks heavily was denied a protection order. The Judge told her to talk to her divorce attorney and to report it to the police."

