

Domestic Violence Counts:07

On September 25, 2007, 9 out of 15, or 60%, of identified domestic violence programs in Mississippi participated in the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent information from the 9 participating programs about services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

278 VICTIMS SERVED IN ONE DAY

- 197 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
- 81 adults and children received non-residential services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.
- In just one day, 100% of local programs provided individual counseling or advocacy but only 33% were able to provide transitional housing. Other services provided by programs include:

100%	Emergency Shelter
100%	Individual Counseling or Advocacy
89%	Advocacy with Social Services
89%	Childcare
89%	Group Counseling or Advocacy
78%	Children's Counseling/ Advocacy
78%	Legal Accompaniment/ Services
33%	Transitional Housing

53 UNMET REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

Due to a lack of resources, many programs in Mississippi reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as housing, childcare, mental health and substance abuse counseling, and legal representation.

NOT ENOUGH STAFF

Programs reported that lack of staffing was a reason that they could not meet victims' requests for services. 89% of programs have fewer than 20 paid staff.

242 HOTLINE CALLS ANSWERED

Domestic violence hotlines are a life line for victims in danger. Domestic violence program staff in Mississippi answered more than 10 hotline calls every hour, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

274 PEOPLE TRAINED

Individuals across Mississippi attended community education and trainings, gaining much needed information on prevention and early intervention.

We were able to assist two victims with obtaining a protective order. A mother of five got a job today so now she can start looking for an apartment!

Our one victim advocate cannot adequately serve all clients in all courts in our eleven-county service area. We have no funds to pay for legal counsel, and the waiting period for free legal service is often longer than the time period for the temporary restraining order.