

Domestic Violence Counts:07

On September 25, 2007, 61 out of 61, or 100%, of identified domestic violence programs in Pennsylvania participated in the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent information from the 61 participating programs about services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

2,535 VICTIMS SERVED IN ONE DAY

- 1,071 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
- 1,464 adults and children received non-residential services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children’s support groups.
- In just one day, 95% of local programs provided individual counseling or advocacy but only 44% were able to provide transitional housing. Other services provided by programs include:

95%	Individual Counseling or Advocacy
80%	Emergency Shelter
80%	Legal Accompaniment/ Services
67%	Children’s Counseling/ Advocacy
59%	Advocacy with Social Services
54%	Group Counseling or Advocacy
44%	Transitional Housing
30%	Childcare

209 UNMET REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

Due to a lack of resources, many programs in Pennsylvania 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. 61% of programs have fewer than 20 paid staff, and 21% of those programs have fewer than 10 paid staff.

892 HOTLINE CALLS ANSWERED

Domestic violence hotlines are a life line for victims in danger. Domestic violence program staff in Pennsylvania answered more than 37 hotline calls every hour, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

1,546 PEOPLE TRAINED

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

On the survey day, a transitional housing guest exited transitional housing. She left this note: “I came here a year ago with nothing. I did not even have myself. You showed me that I have a future, and there is always hope.”

Children are waiting 4 weeks or longer to see a counselor due to the limited hours of our children’s counselor. Our counselor can’t increase her hours because of limited funding.