

# '15

## Domestic Violence Counts New Mexico Summary

On September 16, 2015, 23 out of 32 (72%) identified domestic violence programs in New Mexico participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 23 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 643 Victims Served in One Day

460 domestic violence victims (264 children and 196 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

183 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. 16
Children's Support or Advocacy	78%
Emergency Shelter	70%
Transportation	52%
Court or Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	39%
Transitional or Other Housing Program (run by DV program)	30%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults (by a licensed practitioner)	26%
Therapy/Counseling for Children or Youth (by a licensed practitioner)	17%

### 166 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 6 hotline calls every hour.

### 171 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 171 individuals in communities across New Mexico attended 7 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 95 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 58% Were for Housing

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services. In addition to housing and emergency shelter, programs reported that of the service requests they could not meet, Rental Assistance/Utilities and Attorney/Legal Representation services were most in demand.

### Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across New Mexico, 24 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 26% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 17% of programs reported fewer individual donations.
- 13% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 13% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.

Across New Mexico, 17 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most (82%) of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

"One of the children said that before he and his family came to our shelter, the people where they used to live hurt him and liked hurting him; that they did not like him very much. The child said how happy he was to be here because nobody hurt him, everyone liked him and it was the first time ever he was safe."

— Advocate