



ALASKA SUMMARY OF CORE VICTIM SERVICES

On September 15, 2010, **18** out of **18**, or **100%**, of identified domestic violence programs in Alaska participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by **18** participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period. The results of the survey follow.

467 Victims Served in One Day

- **307** domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs
- **160** adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups

Percentage of victims served in shelter, transitional housing, and non-residential services on the Survey Day.

| Victims Served | Percentage |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Emergency Shelter | 49% |
| Non-Residential Services | 34% |
| Transitional Housing | 17% |

80 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 **3** hotline calls every hour.

353 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, **353** individuals in communities across Alaska attended **16** trainings sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

Pro Bono Legal Services

The Network's Pro Bono Program began serving the legal needs of victims in 1999. In the first 8 years of the project (1999-2006), case referrals averaged **160** a year or **13** per month. During the past 3 years, the amount of referrals has significantly risen as shown in the table below.

| Year | Applications Received | Individuals Served | Un-Met Need |
|------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 2010 | 293 | 90 | 203* |
| 2009 | 318 | 122 | 196 |
| 2008 | 245 | 104 | 141 |
| 2007 | 227 | 89 | 138 |

This data only includes referrals through December 20, 2010. During the first two weeks of December, 2010, the program received in excess of **30 referrals, showing a significant increase in demand for services. If this trend continues, the program will reach in excess of **60** referrals this month, the highest ever.*

Similarly, on September 15, 2010, program survey day, **17%** of DV/SA programs provided services to victims seeking legal representation by an attorney.

Overview of Services Provided by Local DV/SA Programs:

| % of Local Programs That Provided Below Services | On Sept. 15, 2010 |
|--|-------------------|
| Individual Support or Advocacy | 94% |
| Emergency Shelter (including hotels or safe houses) | 72% |
| Transportation | 67% |
| Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord | 56% |
| Children's Support or Advocacy | 56% |
| Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy | 56% |
| Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse | 44% |
| Group Support or Advocacy | 44% |
| Rural Outreach | 44% |
| Transitional Housing | 44% |
| Advocacy Related to Mental Health | 39% |
| Job Training/Employment Assistance | 28% |
| Advocacy/Support to Teen Victims of Dating Violence | 17% |
| Financial Skills/Budgeting | 17% |
| Legal Representation by an Attorney | 17% |
| Medical Services/Accompaniment | 11% |
| Therapy/Counseling for Adults (by a licensed practitioner) | 11% |
| Therapy/Counseling for Children (by a licensed practitioner) | 6% |

Economic Empowerment Programming

28% of programs provide economic empowerment programming which includes:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Financial literacy education | 17% |
| Job readiness/job training | 11% |

41 Unmet Requests for Services

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services such as transportation, childcare, language translation, and legal representation. Of these unmet requests, **38** were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

67% of Programs Reported an Increase of Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, programs are reporting a rise in demand for services. **67%** programs reported an increase of demand for services from survivors of domestic violence. At the same time, **28%** of programs reported a decrease in funding.

33% of Programs Reported Decreases in Community Resources

For many survivors, moving on from domestic violence often requires community support and resources. Yet **33%** programs reported decreases in community resources available to survivors. Without community resources to support the work that programs do, program provide those services to survivors, often with insufficient staffing and funding.

Success Story

A past Program Participant came by the shelter to follow-up and tell us how well she is doing now. She is now feeling completely self-sufficient with a great job, an apartment and her children are actively involved in extra-curricular activities. When we first met, she lacked the motivation to do even the most basic tasks, so seeing her with such a great outlook was inspiring for Advocates.