More Than 254 Victims of Domestic Violence Served In Just One Day

*Over 24 requests went unmet in that same day due to lack of funds*

In just one 24-hour period, local domestic violence programs across Vermont provided help and safety to 254 adults and children who were victims of domestic violence. Survivors were given a safe place to stay and resources to escape violence and abuse. Sadly, 24 times on that same day an individual’s needs were not met.

“The shelters operated by the member programs of the Vermont Network are filled to capacity every night. These shelters offer survivors and their children safety and support,” said Karen Tronsgard Scott, executive director of the VT Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. “We should ensure that all survivors have access to shelter and transitional housing by increasing the level of funding provided for these services.”

In addition to the number of victims served, more than 85 hotline calls were answered and more than 54 individuals attended 6 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs on the survey day.

“Domestic Violence survivors are particularly vulnerable when the economy suffers. Options for leaving abusive relationships dry up and survivors struggle to support themselves and their children,” continued Ms. Tronsgard Scott. “Limitations in state supports like Reach Up and housing subsidies only worsen conditions for domestic violence survivors and their children, leaving them with even fewer options for safety.”

For the seventh consecutive year, the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) conducted its annual National Census of Domestic Violence Services on September 12, 2012 and today released their analysis of that data in the report: Domestic Violence Counts: A 24-hour Census of Domestic Violence Shelters and Services. The national report revealed that reduced funding for domestic violence services means that programs were unable to help survivors with shelter, attain legal help, or leave abusive partners.

On September 12, 2012, 100% of Vermont’s local domestic violence programs participated in the survey. The figures represent the information reported by the 12 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.
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About the VT Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
As the statewide leader to end domestic and sexual violence, the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, in collaboration with its member programs, is the collective voice for social change on behalf of domestic and sexual violence survivors in Vermont. For more information about the Vermont Network call 802-223-1302 or go to our website at www.vtnetwork.org. See us on Facebook at VT Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

About NNEDV
The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), a 501(c)(3) social change organization, is dedicated to creating a social, political and economic environment in which domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking no longer exist. As the leading voice for domestic violence victims and their allies, NNEDV members include all 56 of the state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence, including over 2,000 local programs. NNEDV has been a premiere national organization advancing the movement against domestic violence for almost 25 years, having led efforts among domestic violence advocates and survivors in urging Congress to pass the landmark Violence Against Women Act of 1994. To learn more about NNEDV, please visit www.nnedv.org.