

Washington State Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter and Advocacy Services

The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) domestic violence program provides significant state and federal funding dedicated to providing emergency shelter and supportive services for victims of domestic violence and their dependent children. In state fiscal year 2016, DSHS disbursed \$10,357,486 to 43 emergency domestic violence shelters across the state of Washington, 52 percent of which was from state funds. Local domestic violence programs served 25,120 victims of domestic violence and their children in 2016, 5,957 of whom received emergency shelter. Domestic violence programs consistently report that DSHS funding is critical to keeping their doors open and providing life-saving services to members of their communities.

State Fiscal Year 2016

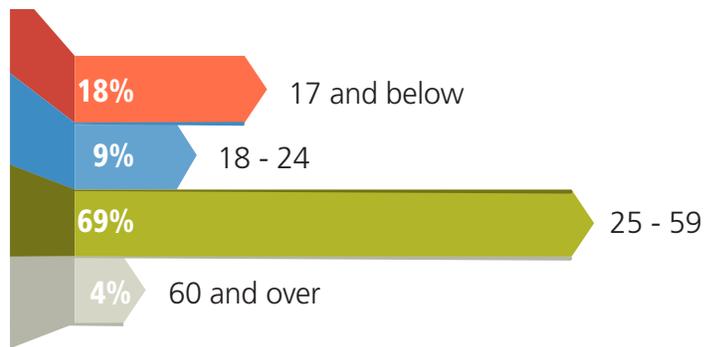
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Calls received by the state domestic violence hotline	3,680
Crisis hotline and information/referral calls received by emergency domestic violence shelter programs	94,627
Adult survivors and children receiving emergency domestic violence shelter	5,957
<i>Total bednights for new and returning</i>	222,785
<i>Number of unmet requests for emergency shelter</i>	22,039
Adult survivors and children receiving nonresidential domestic violence advocacy services	19,163
Domestic violence programs provided the following:	
<i>Hours of individual support and advocacy to adults</i>	144,570
<i>Hours of support group advocacy to adults</i>	27,448
<i>Hours of individual and group support/activities for children</i>	28,984
<i>Training, presentations and outreach to this many individuals</i>	44,015
Hours of service donated by volunteers	97,390

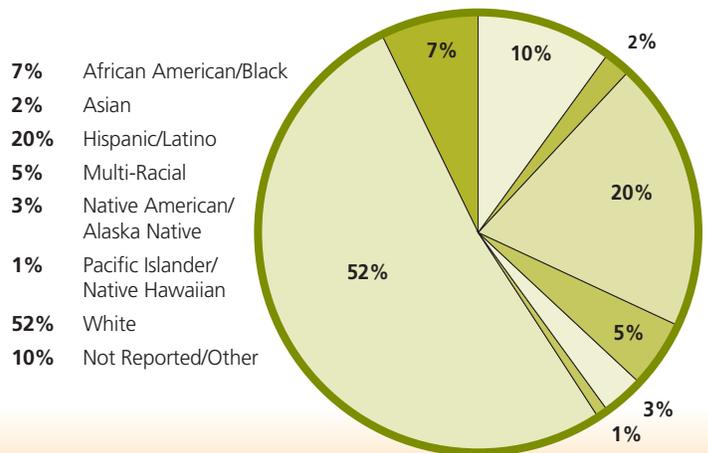
“I never thought I’d make it this far, but yet here I am. When you welcomed me with open arms, open minds and empathetic compassion, I finally felt safe. You all supported me mentally, emotionally and spiritually... when I was ready to collapse and... held my hand throughout it all. Thank you.”

— Survivor

Demographics Chart - AGE



Demographics Chart - RACE / ETHNICITY



In SFY 2016, there were unmet requests for domestic violence emergency shelter from eligible individuals, an 8% increase over the previous year.

Questions should be directed to the DSHS Program Manager at (360) 902-8493

Information about individual agencies can be obtained from: www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/domestic-violence/

Washington State Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter and Advocacy Services

Shelter and Supportive Services Local domestic violence programs provide emergency domestic violence shelter to victims of domestic violence and their dependent children. In addition to shelter, residents receive supportive services such as advocacy, legal assistance, access to support groups, and other specialized services based on each person's unique needs. The majority of service recipients, however, receive non-shelter based services such as advocacy, assistance with protection orders and other legal issues, and access to support groups. In 2016, the 43 domestic violence shelter programs provided 222,785 shelter bed nights to victims and their families. Victims stayed in shelter an average of 36 days in 2016.

Meeting Survivors' Needs

Beginning in July 2008, survivors receiving services at domestic violence programs funded by DSHS had the opportunity to provide confidential feedback on the services they received. In response to two questions answered by 5,862 survivors in 2016:

5,505 (94%) responded that as a result of receiving services, they know more ways to plan for their safety

5,415 (92%) responded that as a result of receiving services, they know more about community resources

These outcomes are consistent with the findings from two national multi-state studies that documented the experiences of survivors that received emergency shelter¹ and non-shelter based services² from domestic violence programs.

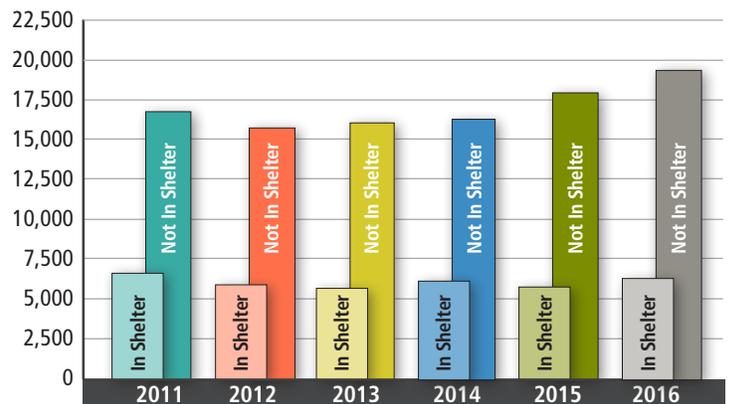
¹Lyon, E., Lane, S., and Menard, A. (2008). Domestic Violence Shelters: Survivors' Experiences. Final report of grant #2007-IJ-CX-K022, submitted to the National Institute of Justice, Washington, D.C. October.

²Lyon, E., Bradshaw, J., and Menard, A. (2011). Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services: Survivors' Experiences. Final report of grant #2009-U-CX-0027, submitted to the National Institute of Justice, Washington D.C. November.

The average shelter stay was 36 nights

Local domestic violence programs offer community education and training opportunities to organizations and the public about domestic violence. This could be a training or presentation to a local faith based leaders, teachers, or hosting an information table at a community event. In 2016 domestic violence programs provided training and presentations to 44,015 individuals.

Services Chart - ADULTS AND CHILDREN PROVIDED SHELTER OR NON-SHELTER BASED SERVICES



Washington State Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-562-6025
(Voice and TTY)

*Data is collected from 43 domestic violence shelter/safe home agencies in 39 counties that contract with the Department of Social and Health Services/Children's Administration. Contractors provide emergency domestic violence shelter and advocacy services.

*Service numbers include all data reported into the statewide InfoNet data collection system during state fiscal year 2016. Data for this report was pulled in November 2016.

*This data reflects only the emergency domestic violence shelter and advocacy services provided by DSHS contracted agencies and does not reflect the full range of services provided by contractors.

*In August 2012 the state domestic violence hotline reduced its hours of operation.