

# Washington State Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter and Supportive Services

The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) domestic violence program distributes 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 2017, DSHS disbursed \$13,035,679 to 42 emergency domestic violence shelters across the state of Washington, 40 percent of which were from state funds. Local domestic violence programs served 24,692 victims of domestic violence and their children in 2017, 5,672 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 2017

July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

Calls received by the state domestic violence hotline .....**2,668**

Crisis hotline and information/referral calls received  
by emergency domestic violence shelter programs .....**97,688**

Adult survivors and children receiving  
emergency domestic violence shelter .....**5,672**

*Total bednights for new and returning* .....**223,152**

*Number of unmet requests for emergency shelter* .....**19,716**

Adult survivors and children receiving  
nonresidential domestic violence advocacy services .....**19,020**

Domestic violence programs provided the following:

*Hours of individual support and advocacy to adults* .....**138,478**

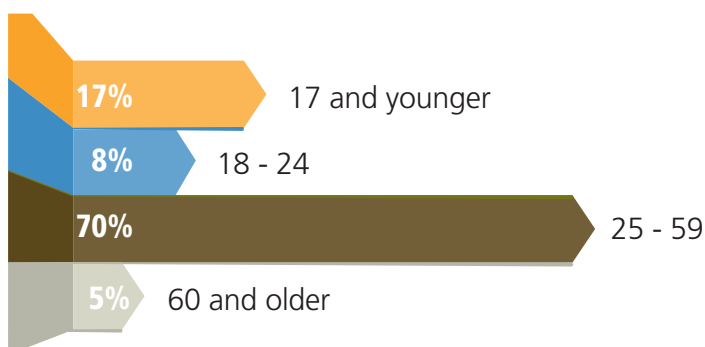
*Hours of support group advocacy to adults* .....**25,886**

*Hours of individual and group support/activities for children* .....**18,340**

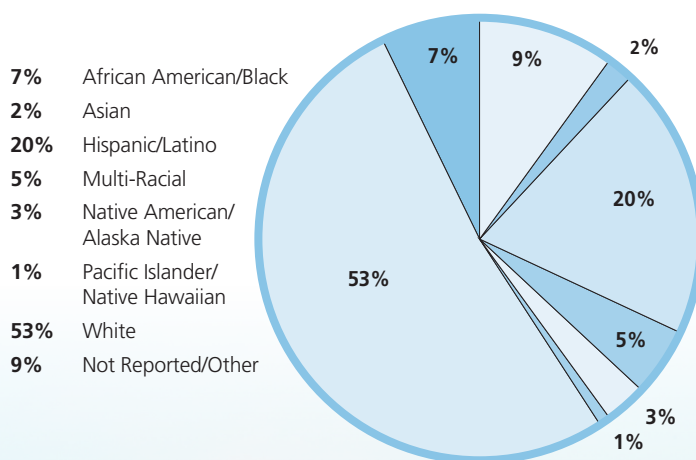
*Training, presentations and outreach to this many individuals* .....**56,289**

Hours of service donated by volunteers .....**88,453**

## Demographics Chart - AGE



## Demographics Chart - RACE / ETHNICITY



**In SFY 2017, there were 19,716 unmet requests for domestic violence emergency shelter from eligible individuals.**

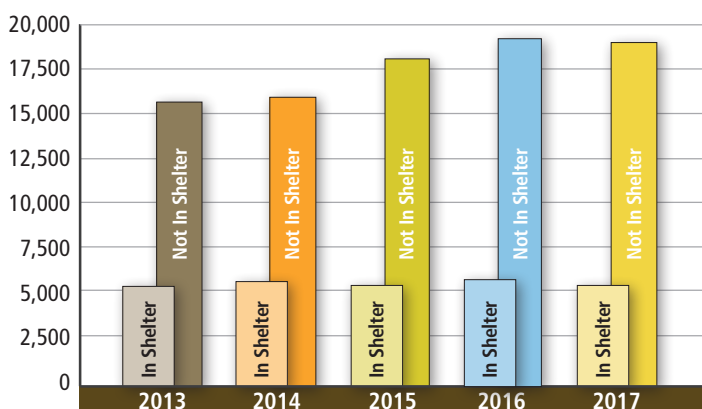
**Questions** should be directed to the DSHS Program Manager at (360) 902-8495

Information about individual agencies can be obtained from: [www.domesticviolenceinfoerrall.org](http://www.domesticviolenceinfoerrall.org)

# Washington State Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter and Supportive 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 2017, the 42 domestic violence shelter programs provided 223,152 shelter bednights to victims and their families. Victims stayed in shelter an average of 37 days in 2017.

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



**Average shelter stay was 37 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 local faith-based leaders, teachers or hosting an information table at a community event. In 2017 domestic violence programs provided training and presentations to 56,289 individuals.

## 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 1,378 survivors in 2017:

**1,291 (94 percent)** responded that as a result of receiving services, they know more ways to plan for their safety.

**1,275 (93 percent)** 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 who received emergency shelter<sup>1</sup> and non-shelter based services<sup>2</sup> from domestic violence programs.

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

<sup>2</sup>Lyon, 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.

*She was married for almost 50 years to an abusive man. When she first came to us, she was a wreck, couldn't see where her future would take her, felt terrified by the court process and what he was going to do to her financially. We provided her with services and support over the next 18 months, and in a thank-you note she wrote, "I can't thank you enough! Sometimes you just need that little sign that the entire world isn't working against you."*

— Domestic Violence Program

\*Data is collected from 42 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 2017. Data for this report was pulled in February 2018.

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