
Snapshot of Domestic Violence in Colorado

- ◆ In a single day in 2008, 1,028 Coloradans received services from domestic abuse programs: 574 domestic violence victims found respite in shelter or transitional housing and 454 adults and children received services such as individual counseling, legal advocacy and children's support groups. Unfortunately, programs also reported that on that day 183 requests for services went unmet as insufficient resources prevented programs from meeting all the need.
Source: Domestic Violence Counts: The National Census of Domestic Violence Services, Executive Summary for Colorado, available at www.nnedv.org/census.
- ◆ In 2008, Domestic Violence Program-funded organizations across Colorado answered 46,780 emergency crisis intervention phone calls, an increase of 20% over 2007.
Source: Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Violence Program, "2008 Annual Report." Available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-DVP/DVP/1230640339993>
- ◆ 98,044 nights of shelter were provided to 5,087 Coloradans in 2008. In addition, fifteen Domestic Violence Program-funded organizations provided transitional housing to 332 women.
Source: Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Violence Program, "2008 Annual Report." Available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-DVP/DVP/1230640339993>
- ◆ 8,660 individuals were turned away from shelters in Colorado in 2008 due to a lack of capacity, a 340% increase over the last three years since 2005, when 2,537 victims were turned away.
Source: Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Violence Program, "2008 Annual Report." Available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-DVP/DVP/1230640339993>.
- ◆ Victims who need economic resources like stable, affordable housing or employment to leave an abusive relationship face limited choices in a sinking economy. Shelter residents are staying in shelter for longer periods of time before bridging to permanent housing. Anecdotal evidence suggests this is related to a lack of affordable housing in many communities.
Source: Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Violence Program, "2008 Annual Report." Available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-DVP/DVP/1230640339993>.
- ◆ From 2006-2008, Domestic Violence crimes comprised 22% of all misdemeanors in Colorado.
Source: Based on data from Colorado State Court Administrator's Office, "Colorado Judicial Branch Annual Statistical Reports: Misdemeanor Filings by Type of Case" for FY 2007 and 2008. Available at www.courts.state.co.us.
- ◆ In Colorado in 2008, at least 33 people died in 24 fatal incidents related to domestic abuse, including 7 children murdered. The victims ranged in age from 21 months old to 64 years old, whereas the offenders ranged in age from 18 to 68. The most frequent cause of death was use of a firearm.
Source: Denver Metro Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee / Denver Domestic Violence Coordinating Council "2008 Summary"
- ◆ Children between the ages of 0-12 comprised 18% off all the individuals who received services from domestic abuse programs in 2008. Nearly half (43% or 2,165) the residents in shelter during 2007 were children, age 17 and under.
Source: Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Violence Program, "2008 Annual Report." Available at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-DVP/DVP/1230640339993>.

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CCADV works to eliminate domestic violence in all its forms.