

State Of Domestic Abuse

www.DVNconnect.org

2009-2010
Released Fall 2011



REPORT SECTIONS

Executive Summary	2
Special Thanks	3
SECTION 1: Crisis and Domestic Abuse Calls	4
SECTION 2: Race of Victim and Relationship to Abuser	6
SECTION 3: Shelter and Emergency Bed Space Usage	7
SECTION 4: Criminal and Civil Justice	9
SECTION 5: Focus on the Needs	10
SECTION 6: Emerging Needs	12
SECTION 7: Next Steps	13
SECTION 8: Domestic Violence Counts	14
Sources and Notes	16

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DVN's mission is to end domestic violence by engaging the community through advocacy, education and collaboration. DVN unveiled the first Family Violence Community-Wide Plan in 2000 and continues to lead the community in developing intentional and collaborative initiatives through the *Peace in Our Homes: A Call to End Domestic Abuse in Central Indiana* plan. For more information about DVN, visit www.DVNconnect.org or call 317-872-1086.

The State of Domestic Abuse report was identified as a strategy in the *Peace in Our Homes* plan to inform the public about the state of domestic abuse in our community. By gathering and sharing data, central Indiana can continue to develop and implement appropriate and impactful efforts to prevent, respond to and address domestic abuse.

The geographic area of this report is primarily Marion County, including shelter data, protective orders and homicides. Some shelter and crisis call data from surrounding counties have been provided as well.

Data integrity continues to be an issue resulting in difficulty with identifying community gaps and needs. DVN, the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD), Marion County Prosecutor's Office (MCPO) and the Julian Center are partners on the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women's Community Defined Solutions Grant. One component of the grant is to create a data base that will capture victim and offender data from the Julian Center, IMPD, MCPO and possibly Centers of Hope. The data will be used to address training issues, locations with multiple calls, successful prosecution and protective order information. Additionally, in the past there was inconsistency with the way that domestic abuse codes were entered by IMPD officers. Recently, a screen was added to IMPD's in-car computer to help identify a domestic related runs. This screen will help tremendously with the accuracy of reporting.

While the first State of Domestic Abuse report included data from the MCPO and IMPD, DVN is waiting until the next report to add their data. With the changes in reporting, DVN believes more consistent data will be available beginning in 2013.

Special Thanks to Women's Fund of Central Indiana, a fund of CICF, for their support with this report.

SECTION 1: CRISIS AND DOMESTIC ABUSE CALLS

Table 1: Domestic Violence Information, Referral and Crisis Calls

	2009	2010	Totals
Total DV Calls: Connect2 Help⁽¹⁾	3,532	3,615	7,147
Total Crisis Calls: Julian Center⁽²⁾	5,370	8,050	13,420
Total Crisis Calls: Sheltering Wings⁽³⁾	1,097	1,415	2,512
Total Crisis Calls: Alternatives⁽⁴⁾	10,034	5,121*	15,155
Totals	20,033	18,201	38,234

*Alternatives, Inc. changed the process of documenting crisis calls accounting for the lesser number in 2010.

Table 2: Domestic Abuse Calls-Marion County Connect2Help⁽⁵⁾

	# Marion County DV Calls	# All DV Calls	# All Incoming Calls
2009	2,654	3,532	230,658
2010	2,797	3,615	255,882
Totals	5,451	7,147	486,540

Table 3: Domestic Abuse Calls-By County Connect2Help⁽⁶⁾

	2009	2010	Total
Boone	20	12	32
Hamilton	57	65	122
Hancock	16	15	31
Hendricks	74	47	121
Johnson	64	64	128
Madison	n/a	n/a	n/a
Marion	2,654	2,797	5,451
Morgan	36	34	70
Shelby	17	10	27
Total	2,938	3,044	5,982

Central Indiana continues to see an increase in calls due to domestic abuse. It is uncertain whether there is an increase in abuse or an increase in reporting. Additionally, with the difficult economic times faces by individuals and families in Indiana, this may have resulted in the increased need for services. While it is important to note that economic stress is not a causation of domestic abuse, it may be a correlated factor.

SECTION 2: RACE OF VICTIM AND RELATIONSHIP TO ABUSER

Table 4: DV Victim Race: Connect2Help⁽⁷⁾

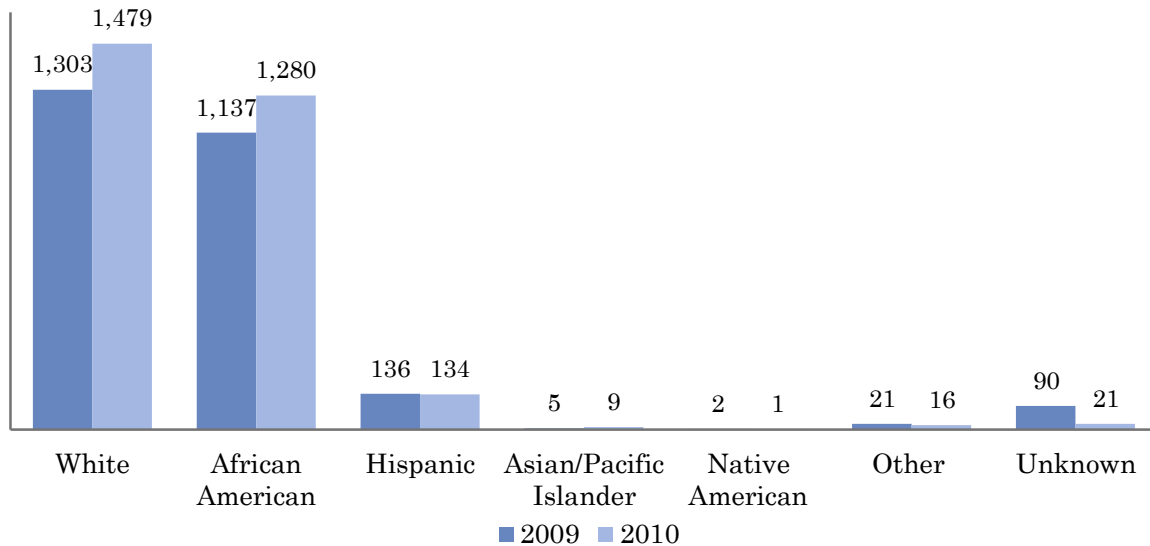
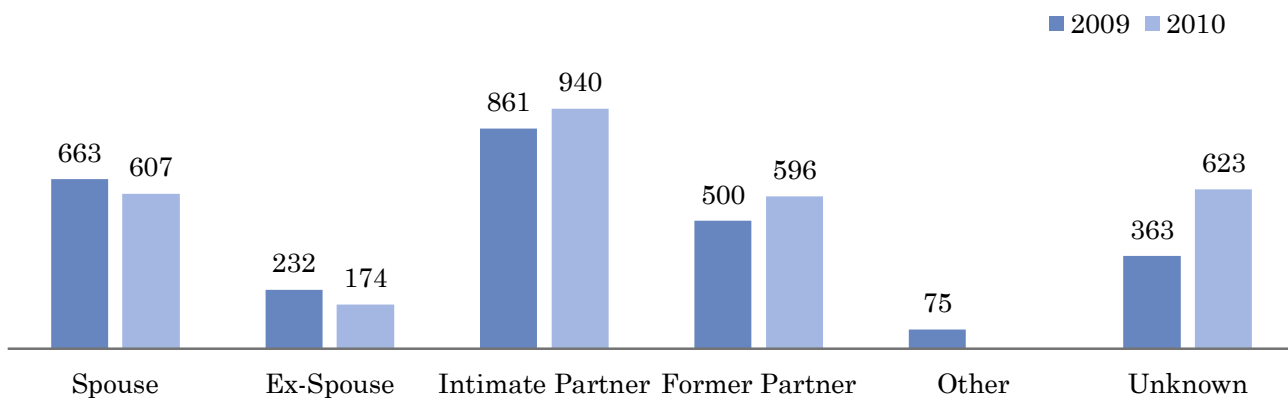


Table 5: DV Victim Relationship to Abuser: Connect2Help⁽⁸⁾



While Central Indiana is seeing a decrease in spousal and ex-spousal abuse, intimate partner and former intimate partner abuse continues to climb. From 2009-2011, 77% of the domestic abuse homicides occurred between couples who were never married to each other.

SECTION 3: SHELTER AND EMERGENCY BED SPACE USAGE

Table 6: Number of Individuals Served State Wide in Shelters:
Indiana Coalition *Against* Domestic Violence ⁽⁹⁾

	2009	2010	Total
Adults Served in Shelter	5,842	6,210	12,052
Children Served in Shelter	5,420	4,532	9,952
Total	11,262	10,742	22,004

Table 7: Gender of Domestic Abuse Victims State Wide Served in Shelter
⁽⁹⁾

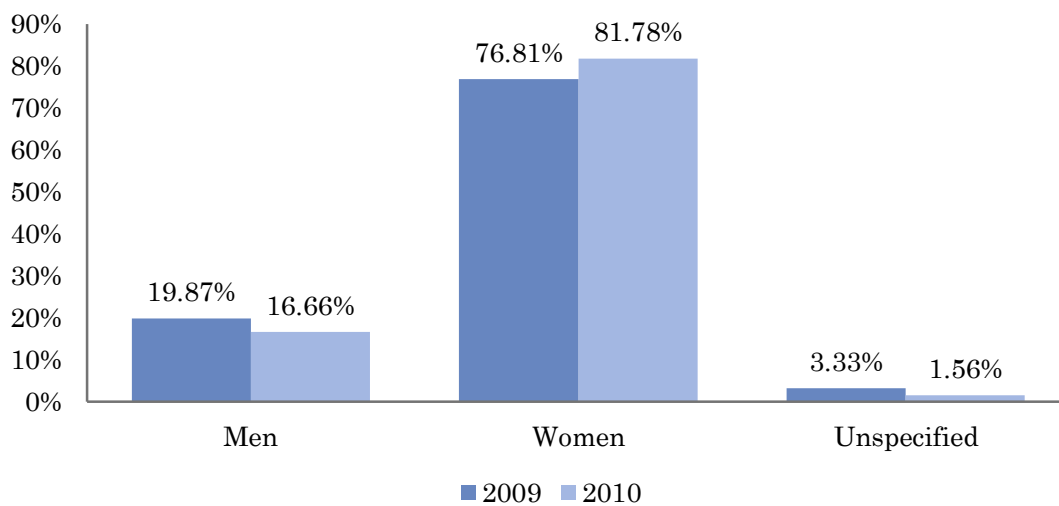


Table 8: Emergency Bed Space Activation and Use ⁽¹⁰⁾

	September 2010	October 2010	November 2010	December 2010	Total
#of clients needing shelter	251	226	183	164	824
#of UNMET shelter needs	25	28	22	19	94
% of UNMET shelter needs	10%	12%	12%	12%	11%
# of times a Specialist asked for Emergency Bed Space	35	34	16	10	95
# of times Emergency Bed Space was provided	16	7	4	4	31
% receiving Emergency Bed Space	46%	21%	25%	40%	33%
% NOT receiving Emergency Bed Space	54%	79%	75%	60%	67%

*A caller may not have been eligible for emergency bed space, but is still recorded as attempting to gain access

SECTION 4: CRIMINAL AND CIVIL JUSTICE

From July 1, 2009-June 30, 2011, at least 47 men, women and children in central Indiana lost their lives due to domestic abuse. These numbers are self reported by agencies and do not include suicides and missing persons, or homicides not ruled as domestic abuse. It does include anyone who lost their life because of domestic abuse, whether they were the primary victim, child, by-stander or suicide after murder.

Table 9: Domestic Violence Fatalities by county
Indiana Coalition *Against* Domestic Violence ⁽¹¹⁾

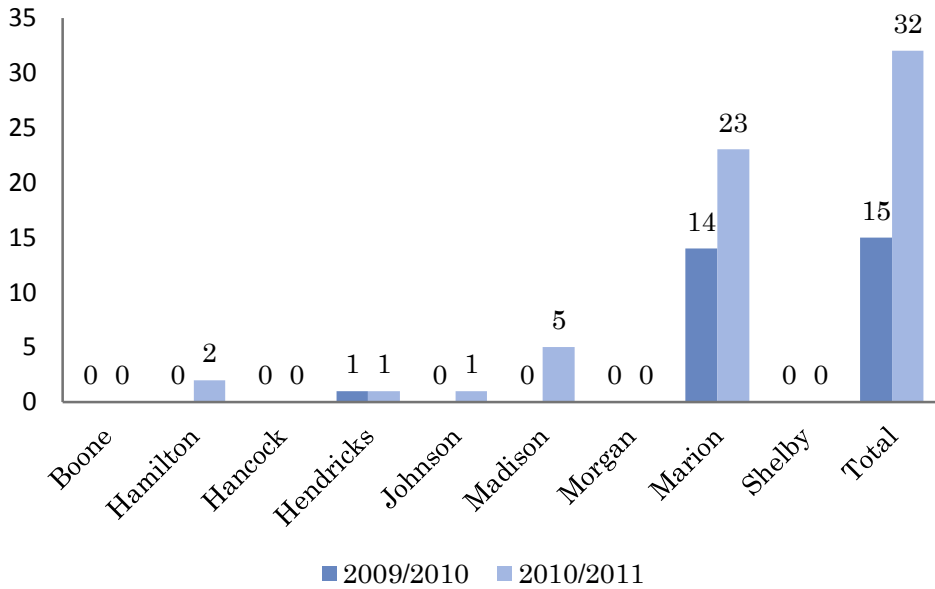


Table 10: Protection Order: Marion County Superior Court 21 ⁽¹²⁾

Court	2009	2010
Court 21	4,055	3,979

The Orders of Protection data was gathered from Incite and reflects protective orders from all courts that issued an order. Courts 16 and 17 issue No Contact Orders attached to a criminal case. A victim of domestic abuse may have both orders.

SECTION 5: FOCUS ON THE NEEDS

Each year, this report highlights one topic that is of interest to the community. This year DVN is highlighting the need for services and prevention for our youth experiencing Teen Dating Abuse (TDA). The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) conducts the Youth Risk and Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) to middle and high school students throughout the country. The YRBSS monitors priority health-risk behaviors for youth and young adults. The last report released in 2009, showed 12.1% of Indiana's youth had been hit, slapped or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend. Additionally, 17.3% of Indiana's girls have been physically forced to have sex.

There has been extensive work done in prevention of TDA. Heather's law was signed into legislation in April 2010 by Governor Mitch Daniels. Named after Heather Norris, who was brutally murdered by her boyfriend, the law mandates that the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) work with domestic abuse prevention experts and identify or create curriculum and make it available to schools by July 1, 2011. The IDOE recommendations can be accessed at this web address:

www.doe.in.gov/sservices/welcome.html.

Start Strong Indianapolis is a collaborative effort between DVN, Washington Township Metropolitan School District, IU Health and funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Start Strong Indianapolis is one of eleven Start Strong sites across the United States. This four year initiative is to build healthy teen relationships among 11-14 year old youth and to rally the community to promote healthy relationships as a way to prevent teen dating abuse and violence. Start Strong Indianapolis teaches the Safe Dates curriculum to middle school students in Washington Township and facilitates a Start Strong Club with students at North Central High School.

Start Strong collaborated with Young Actor's Theater to produce "don't u luv me?" a play about the cycle of teen dating abuse. This powerful play was shown at the Indy Fringe Festival in August 2010 and organizations throughout the city have asked for repeat performances.

As DVN moves forward with the next community wide plan, A Coordinated Community Response, teen dating abuse prevention efforts will continue to be implemented.

Table 11: Start Strong Indianapolis Trainings 2009/2010⁽¹³⁾

	2009	2010
# of students receiving Safe Dates Curriculum	290	529
Parent Programing	35	316
Student Programming	48	376
General Public Education	250	775
Adult Influencer Programing*	956	439
don't u luv me?	n/a	444

*Adult Influencer includes, but is not limited to: healthcare providers, youth workers, counselors, etc.

SECTION 6: EMERGING NEEDS

Multiple funding streams supporting domestic abuse victims needs ended in 2010, reducing the levels of service for the basic needs of survivors and their children. DVN received a one time grant from the Nina Pulliam Charitable Trust and the Allstate Foundation for Economic Self Sufficiency funds for survivors of domestic abuse in 2009/2010, but the funding was not renewed. One time federal stimulus funding designated for the rapid rehousing for victims to quickly move from shelter to transitional and permanent housing ended and in 2010 the Community Economic Relief Fund (CERF) was not continued.

CERF was a collaborative response by Indianapolis funders to support organizations providing basic services to low-moderate income families in this time of economic turmoil. Organizations were selected based on historical relationships with funders and if they were providing basic/emergency services such as food, shelter and health.

Many victims sought shelter through 2-1-1 and were not able to obtain it because of lack of space or being ineligible for services. While the economic climate maybe a factor in driving the increased number of victims of domestic abuse, it is also drastically limiting the number of clients shelters are able to assist due to available space and increases in provider operational expenses.

The Julian Center and Sheltering Wings recognized and responded to the need for more housing and shelter beds. The Julian Center opened 34 North, a 71 unit apartment complex with dedicated apartments for survivors of domestic abuse, in July 2010. In August 2010, Sheltering Wings began the expansion of their facility, adding 24 beds for victims of domestic abuse.


SECTION 7: NEXT STEPS

The Domestic Violence Network was asked by Mayor Gregory Ballard to lead the community in a Coordinated Community Response (CCR) to domestic abuse. A CCR is a system of networks, agreements, processes and applied principles between organizations to coordinate the response to domestic abuse by promoting protection of victims and their families and holding perpetrators accountable and offering services for change.

Part of the CCR is data collection and improved future reports will include more precise data as the state of domestic abuse in central Indiana is collected and evaluated. The Indiana Violence Prevention Partnership has been engaged to create a data base that will collect data from the Julian Center, Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department, and Marion County Superior Courts and is in discussion with Marion County Probation and the Centers for Hope to collect their data as well. Information relating to both the victim and the perpetrator will be collected, tracked and evaluated for use by law enforcement, service providers and prosecutors in reducing domestic abuse through earlier intervention methods. In 2012, The State of Domestic Abuse report will include expanded data from three additional shelters serving central Indiana.

SECTION 8: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS

The National Census of Domestic Violence Services for Indiana



**'09 Domestic Violence Counts
Indiana Summary**

On September 15, 2009, 45 out of 48, or 94%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Indiana participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by the 45 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,795 Victims Served in One Day
1,069 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

726 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.

69 Unmet Requests for Services
Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation. Of these unmet requests, 53 (77%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons, as reported below.

- 29% reported not enough staff.
- 16% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 29% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 18% reported not enough specialized services.
- 7% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

This chart shows the percentage of programs that provided the following services on the Census Day.

Services Provided by Local Programs:	Sept 15
Individual Support or Advocacy	98%
Emergency Shelter	69%
Children's Support or Advocacy	69%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	42%
Transportation	60%
Court Accompaniment/Advocacy	49%
Job Training/Employment Assistance	44%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	38%

657 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 approximately 27 hotline calls every hour.

736 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings
On the survey day, 736 individuals in communities across Indiana attended 35 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

“We’ve had a 32% increase in clients this year as a result of the economic downturn. We need more long-term, transitional support programs, and more funding for non-residential, follow-up supportive services.”

“Our length of shelter stay has increased dramatically. We’ve found ways to assist clients requesting shelter even when we don’t have space by increasing services and working with non-shelter clients on a long-term basis.”



2009 Domestic Violence Counts: A 24-Hour Census of Domestic Violence Shelters and Services

'10 Domestic Violence Counts Indiana Summary

On September 15, 2010, 45 out of 49, or 92%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Indiana participated in the 2010 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 45 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

2,001 Victims Served in One Day

1,042 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

959 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.

This chart shows the percentage of programs that provided the following services on the Census Day.

Services Provided by Local Programs:	Sept. 15
Individual Support or Advocacy	98%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	64%
Transportation	49%
Financial Skills/Budgeting	29%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	24%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	24%
Advocacy/Support to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	13%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	4%

446 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 19 hotline calls every hour.

100 Unmet Requests for Services

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation. Of these unmet requests, 73 (73%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 38% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 27% reported not enough staff.
- 18% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 18% reported not enough specialized services.
- 11% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

82% of Programs Reported Higher Demand for Services

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, 82% of programs reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time 76% of programs reported a decrease in funding.

"A survivor came to our program today for help because she was inspired by her 22-year-old daughter who is also in an abusive relationship and has been coming to our support group."



NATIONAL NETWORK
TO END DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE

2010 Domestic Violence Counts: A 24-Hour Census of Domestic Violence Shelters and Services

SOURCES AND NOTES

- ¹Connect 2Help Calls in which any mention was made of domestic abuse (past or present); underlying situation is marked DV; all DV calls are reviewed by a Supervisor. Totals include those calls from victims, professionals, abusers and others
- ²Julian Center Located in Marion County. Incoming crisis calls.
- ³Sheltering Wings Located in Hendricks County. Incoming crisis calls.
- ⁴Alternatives Alternatives, Inc., located in Madison County answers the State Wide Crisis Line.
- ⁵Connect2Help Calls in which any mention was made of domestic abuse (past or present); underlying situation is marked DV; all DV calls are reviewed by a Supervisor.
- ⁶Connect2Help Calls in which any mention was made of domestic abuse (past or present); underlying situation is marked DV; all DV calls are reviewed by a Supervisor.
- ⁷Connect2Help IMPORTANT NOTE: Race data provided here is for Victims ONLY; not secondary victims, professionals, others or abusers
- ⁸Connect2Help Relationship breakdowns for callers with an underlying situation of DV where the answer to “caller is” is “victim”. It does not include secondary victim.
- ⁹Indiana Coalition *Against* Domestic Violence
- Information provided by programs throughout Indiana receiving funding administered by Family & Social Services Administration (FSSA).
- ¹⁰Connect2Help Emergency Bed Space is run by the Salvation Army and coordinates space availability at area shelters and makes sure every spot is filled.
- ¹¹Indiana Coalition *Against* Domestic Violence
- Self reported by agencies. Note all deaths are alleged accurate, but not proven.
- ¹²Marion County Superior Court
- The Orders of Protection data was gathered from Indiana Court Information Technology Extranet (INCITE) and reflects protective orders from all courts that issued an order.
- ¹³Start Strong Indianapolis Located in Marion County