

# Klamath County

## Domestic Violence Statistics 2016



**Home should be a safe and trustworthy place**, but for too many Oregonians and **Klamath County families** it is instead fraught with terror and unhealthy home environments due to domestic violence.

Domestic violence multi-faceted and is not limited to physical or verbal abuse but includes emotional, mental, spiritual and intimate terrorism (such as isolation, overt control, reproductive coercion, economic and sexual exploitation), stalking, and online abuse (such as humiliation, doxing and death threats) and those forms of violence are often unrecognized by our laws and norms.

Domestic violence affects not only the person being abused but also children, neighbors, friends, family, coworkers, faith community, pets and others. Seeing or hearing abuse can be particularly terrifying for children and people with trauma histories.

The triad of forced financial dependence, physical and mental abuse and familial isolation creates monumental barriers to leaving and abusive relationship, and dangerous situations are further exacerbated by worsening economic realities especially the lack of truly affordable housing. When victims make the difficult decision to reach out for help, they must be able to find safety and support, and advocates try to go above and beyond to help survivors feel safe.

While domestic violence programs in Oregon and Klamath County must face the untenable reality of being unable to help everyone who comes to their door, survivors face the ultimate consequences. They are often left with few options for safety. Victims who are turned away face a multitude of consequences: remaining unsafe from the abuser; becoming homeless or moving in with family or friends, which can be unsafe and certainly unstable; or leaving town, which could mean giving up a job, children's schools, family, friends, and other support systems.

Given the dangerous and potentially lethal nature of domestic violence, our communities in Oregon and **Klamath County** cannot afford to ignore victims' needs. The long-standing status quo of unmet needs and "turn-always" for many needed support services must be disrupted by an increased investment in domestic violence programs. Addressing domestic violence requires everyone—funders, policy makers, victim advocates, social service providers, law enforcement, courts, and communities—to work together to respond to and prevent further violence and re-victimization.



These numbers reflected below are for Domestic Violence reports that are provided through each of the agencies listed below. These numbers do not reflect sexual abuse, bullying, trafficking, stalking, racism or any other forms of abuse that are experienced by members of our community.

What is also not reflected in these numbers are the additional resources and support networks that are accessed by those experiencing violence and any of its forms through the legal, health, addiction, mental health, and other agencies that provide housing vouchers, food and clothing.

Also not reflected is how many have reached out for assistance to be safe and at that time nothing was there. National research supports that for every one person who reports domestic violence ten have not reported.

<b>Name of Agency</b>	<b>Number of cases</b>
<b>Marta's House / Klamath Crisis Center</b> Community Based Advocacy Program	
New clients served	752
Total clients served unduplicated	1084
<b>Marta's House Shelter</b> - Domestic violence/sexual assault specific	
Total Persons sheltered	386
Adults - 256	
Children - 130	
Shelter Nights	8106
Motel Stays - Families	103
Motel Stays - Nights	278
<b>Klamath County District Attorney's Office</b>	
Reports filed	300
<b>Klamath County Courts</b> - Restraining Orders (total 490)	
Family Abuse Prevention Act	300
Stalking Protective Order	108
Elderly Persons and Persons With Disabilities	82
<b>Klamath Tribes</b>	
Healing Winds Program	206
<b>Department of Human Services</b>	
Self- Sufficiency (DV grants) families with children only	410
Child Welfare (Children in foster care)	106
<b>Child Abuse Response &amp; Evaluation Services (CARES)</b>	
Children exposed to domestic violence	103
<b>Turtle Cove</b> - Supportive Housing	
Domestic violence/sexual assault is primary reason for housing	26
Community Corrections re-entry gender specific program	38

Protecting domestic violence funding and resources in our community is essential. We must continue to provide services that are gender and culturally specific, confidential, safe, respectful, as well as trauma informed.

*"A community free of violence is a healthier community."*