Domestic Violence Service Providers

Survivors of domestic violence face unique challenges and barriers to filling out the census, making it absolutely crucial that trusted community providers help encourage census participation among this hard-to-count group. The overlap of domestic violence and sexual assault with poverty and homelessness; survivors’ reluctance to share personal information due to fear for their safety; and the Census Bureau’s reliance on inadequate data collection methods like the Service Based Enumeration (SBE), make survivors and their children an incredibly vulnerable group to undercounting in the 2020 Census.

The stakes are high: undercounting of this vulnerable population in the 2020 census will result in lower funding levels for essential federal funding streams, thereby undermining considerable progress in preventing domestic and sexual violence and addressing the needs of survivors.

Still Want to Know More? Check Out these Resources from the Census Counts Resource Library:

- Counting People Experiencing Homelessness
- Why the Census Matters for People with Disabilities

Take action as a trusted community service provider.

Tier 1

- Use information from the YWCA Census Toolkit and Guides to talk with the survivors you serve about the importance and safety of filling out the census.
- Hang the YWCA Census Posters
- Print and have census 101 one-pagers from the Census Bureau Toolkit available at your front desk for your clients.
- Get in touch with your local census office. Make sure that your service location is going to be counted as a part of their SBE.

Tier 2

- Organize! Check to see if any of your community partners or other domestic violence service providers are involved in census education. If not, suggest that you make it a shared priority.

Tier 3

- Set up a way for survivors to fill out the census online at your service location. Become a Community Resource Center.