



Sakhi: Domestic Violence Program Statistics for 2008

In 2008, Sakhi fielded a **record number** of new requests for support, as 731 individuals reached out to us for assistance. This number is more than triple the number of requests we received in 2001, when we fielded 201 new pleas for help.

Sakhi's helpline crisis response work in 2008 highlighted key data and information, including:

- At least 30% of callers preferred not to speak English (or had limited English proficiency) or called on behalf of someone else who preferred not to speak English (or had limited English proficiency), underscoring the pressing need for Sakhi's linguistically-appropriate services and policy work to enhance language access.
- Almost 13% of callers were male. Of that figure, about 20% were calling on behalf of themselves and 80% were calling out of concern for a loved one, such as a family member or friend. This represents an increase from 2006, when about 8% of our callers were male, and also illustrates the success of our community-based approach to ending domestic violence.
- In the last quarter of 2008, Sakhi saw a more than 5% increase in call volume compared to the same quarter in 2007, reflecting a greater community demand for services as resources shrink in an economic downturn.
- Parallel to the rise in new requests is an increase in demand for ongoing services and support. Direct Services Director Sandeep Kaur Bathala has noted, "Not only are we seeing an increase in new callers, but we're seeing survivors we've worked with over the years reach out to us more as well."
- Sakhi broadened its direct services and outreach to the geographically isolated Indo-Caribbean and South Asian community of Richmond Hill, Queens. In addition to mobilizing neighborhood-based leadership in ending violence by fostering partnerships with faith institutions, and co-sponsoring an Arts and Empowerment workshop series, Sakhi holds weekly support group meetings in the neighborhood.

2008 Helpline Response: Breakdown by Country of Origin

The largest category of those seeking support hailed from Indian origin (35.5%), followed by those of Bangladeshi origin (20.1%), and Pakistani origin (12.3%). We also fielded requests from those who identified with the following communities: Indo-Caribbean (5.9%), Nepalese (1.6%), Sri Lankan (1%) and Afghan (0.8%). The remaining individuals were either of a South Asian country not specified, non-South Asian origin, or did not provide a country of origin.

2008 Helpline Response: Breakdown by Geography

In terms of breakdown by geography, Queens continued to be the borough demonstrating the most demand (29.9%). Brooklyn comprised 8.3% of those reaching out, the Bronx 6.2%, Manhattan 4.7%, and Staten Island 1.1%. A further 13% also contacted us from within New York City but did not specify a borough, and 4.9% came from Long Island.

Showing Sakhi's national and international reach, a number of survivors also contacted us from outside New York State. We received 11.5% of our requests from states beyond New York and New Jersey, 8.3% from New Jersey, 3.7% from South Asian countries, and 1.4% from non-South Asian countries.

Full 2008 Direct Services Data

<u>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM STATISTICS</u>		
<u>January 1 through December 31, 2008</u>		
TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS & E-MAILS RECEIVED	731	
TOTAL NUMBER OF DV-RELATED CALLS & E-MAILS *	675	92.3%
TOTAL NUMBER OF NON-DV CALLS/E-MAILS	56	7.7%
TOTAL NUMBER WHO PREFERRED OR CALLED ON BEHALF OF SOMEONE WHO PREFERRED TO NOT SPEAK IN ENGLISH (OR HAD LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY)	219	30.0%
<u>Numerical Breakdown of Total Calls/E-mails by Country of Origin</u>		
INDIAN ORIGIN	259	35.5%
BANGLADESHI ORIGIN	147	20.1%
SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRY OF ORIGIN UNAVAILABLE	95	13.0%
PAKISTANI ORIGIN	90	12.3%
INDO-CARIBBEAN ORIGIN	43	5.9%
NON-SOUTH ASIAN ORIGIN	42	5.7%
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN UNAVAILABLE	30	4.1%
NEPALI ORIGIN	12	1.6%
SRI LANKAN ORIGIN	7	1.0%
AFGHAN ORIGIN	6	0.8%
<u>Numerical Breakdown of Total Calls/E-mails by Geographical Location</u>		
QUEENS	219	29.9%
BOROUGH UNKNOWN	95	13.0%
OTHER STATES (NOT INCLUDING NEW JERSEY)	84	11.5%
BROOKLYN	61	8.3%
NEW JERSEY	61	8.3%
BRONX	45	6.2%
LONG ISLAND	36	4.9%
MANHATTAN	34	4.7%
NEW YORK STATE	29	4.0%
SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES**	27	3.7%
LOCATION UNAVAILABLE	22	3.0%
NON-SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES***	10	1.4%
STATEN ISLAND	8	1.1%
* Does not include women we are already working with		
** Women writing to us or calling us from South Asian Countries (non-immigrant)		
*** Women writing to us or calling us from Non-South Asian Countries (non-immigrant)		