



114 S. Canyon Street  
Carlsbad, New Mexico

Media Contact:  
Mike Antiporda  
Carlsbad Community Foundation  
(575) 887-1131

## **Foundation Supports K9 Program with \$5,000 Grant**

**CARLSBAD, N.M., July 29, 2021** – A change in state law to legalize marijuana in the state of New Mexico has left Carlsbad Police Department without a key part of their efforts to remove illegal drugs from our streets. The Department’s two specially trained dogs can no longer be used to enforce state laws and will either be retired or transferred to another jurisdiction.

Two dogs were acquired in 2017 with assistance from the Carlsbad Community Anti-Drug/Gang Coalition to re-start the K9 program. The organization has once again stepped up to spearhead the effort to acquire two new dogs that are trained consistent with the current law in the state. The Coalition has put forth the first \$15,000 of a \$50,000 goal that will pay for the dogs, as well as many related expenses in the coming years. The organization is appealing to individuals, businesses, and organizations to contribute toward the remaining \$35,000 needed.

“This has been a highly successful program,” said Carlsbad Police Chief Shane Skinner. “We certainly want to see the K9 program continue and I think it has strong support in the community.”

The K9 program’s need was underscored by Joana Wells, Executive Director of the Coalition.

“I don’t think people realize how important this is to our community,” said Wells. “These dogs are critical to keep illegal drugs out of the hands of youth and people of all ages.”

The Foundation is pleased to have provided a grant in the amount of \$5,000 and wishes the program continued success in reducing illegal drugs in our community.

“Keeping our community safe is important to everyone,” said Executive Director Mike Antiporda. “We are proud to stand with the Coalition in supporting our local law enforcement efforts.”

**About the Carlsbad Community Foundation**

The Carlsbad Community Foundation is a charitable, 501(c)(3) organization that exists to improve the quality of life for the people of our community and South Eddy County. The work of the Foundation is achieved by building endowment funds for long-term support of nonprofit organizations and other charitable purposes.

###