



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



**P**aws and Stripes has worked in New Mexico for a decade to provide not only service dogs to veterans living with the effects of trauma from their time in service, but also to provide ongoing support, education, and mental health services. With real limitations to consistent care at the VA, many veterans spend years seeking reliable and accessible resources that might help them regain their lives, or even just regain some semblance of hope. Through the healing power of dogs, veterans that have completed programs with Paws and Stripes have recorded significant improvements in their quality of life. Furthermore, the dogs that are paired with them are taken primarily from local shelters and rescues –

## QUITE LITERALLY SAVING TWO LIVES AT A TIME.

"You can tell when there's a connection between the dog and the person."

– Melissa



Name & Name

**70%** of graduates report reduction in isolation.



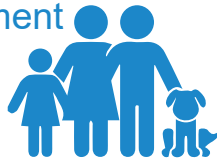
In New Mexico, behavioral health services are sparse, especially in rural areas. Without our program, many veterans would:

- Be unable to access the help they need to fight their symptoms from trauma.
- Suffer from suicidal thoughts and violent actions.
- Run the risk of harming themselves or their families.



Hector & Master Chief

**82%** of graduates report more involvement in social events.



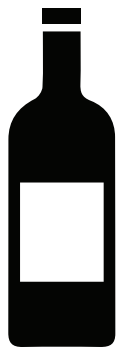
Name & Name

**53%** of graduates report an increase in sleep.



**71** veterans served in 2019.

**127** new requests for enrollment.



Graduates report **55%** less alcohol consumption since starting the program.



Name & Name

"If I hadn't found Paws and Stripes, I would very likely not be here."

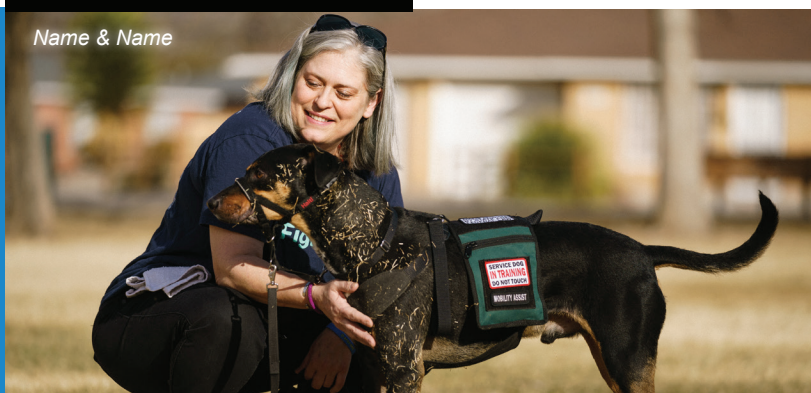
– John

The veterans we serve see huge improvement in their lives as a result of our program. According to the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, a **10-20 point change** in PTSD symptoms (measured with the PCL-5) represents clinically significant change. Veteran graduates average a **30-point change** with some reporting up to a **47-point change**. This is a staggering **50% reduction** in PTSD symptoms.



Name & Name

Our team is steadfast to ensure that our clients will not suffer from a disruption of services when they need us most. Our veterans and their families are a part of us as a nation, as people. **AND RIGHT NOW, THEY NEED YOU.**



Name & Name

"When I was with Bear, I carried myself differently. That proud Marine came back." – Cole