



**Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE)
Funding for Families
Escaping Domestic Violence
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LINK BETWEEN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ANIMAL ABUSE

The “Power and Control Wheel” of Animal Abuse and Domestic Abuse*

Isolation

Refusing to allow them to take their pet to the vet. Prohibiting them from socializing their dog with other dogs

Threats

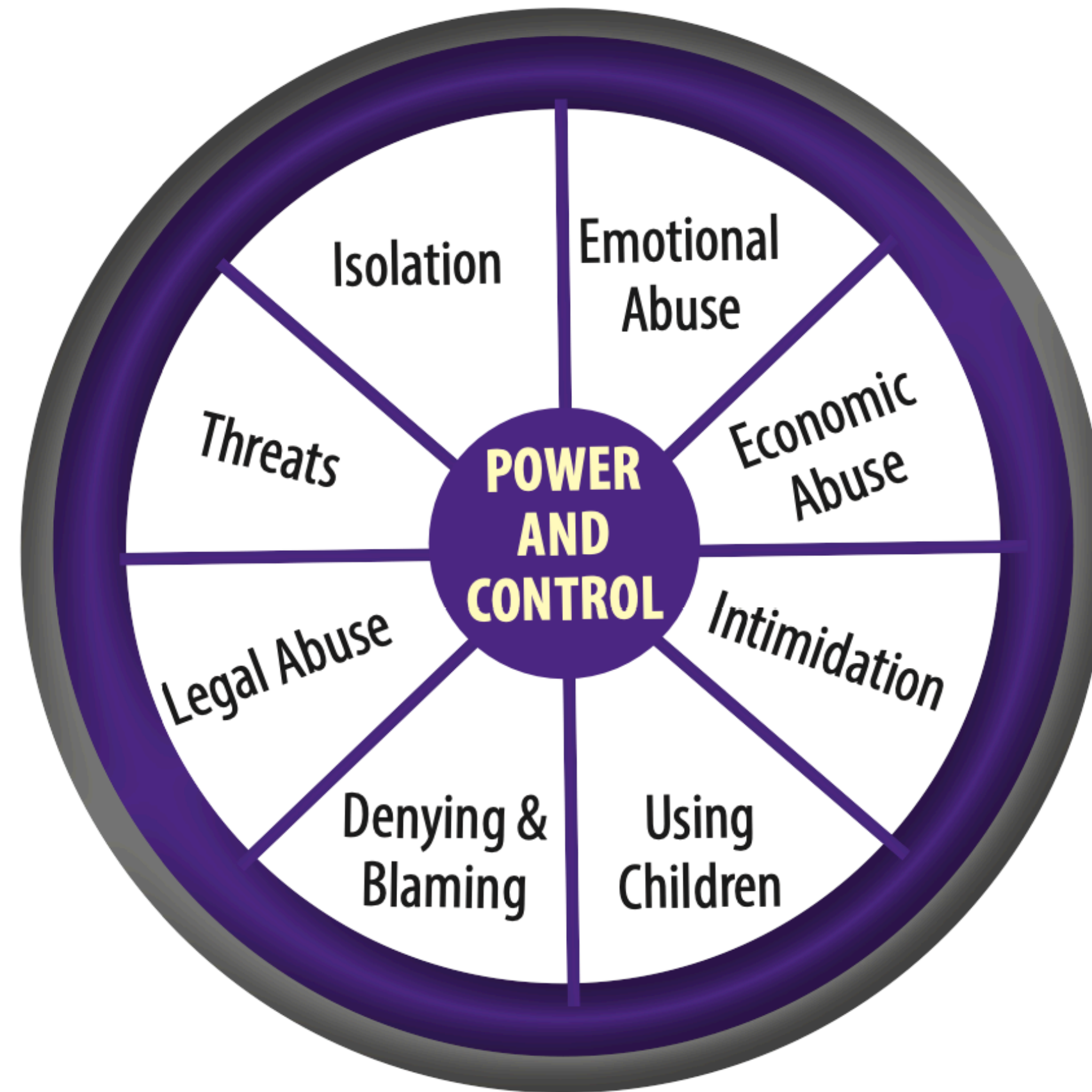
Threatening to harm or kill their pet if they leave or assert any independence.

Legal Abuse

Custody battles over pets. Filing theft charges if they leave with the pet.

Denying & Blaming

Blaming them or the pet for the abuser’s cruelty. Killing the pet and saying it didn’t matter because the pet was old.



Emotional Abuse

Disappearing, giving away, or killing pets to take away their source of unconditional love. Forced participation in animal sexual abuse.

Economic Abuse

Refusing to allow them to spend money on pet food or vet care.

Intimidation

Harming or killing pet: “Next time, it’ll be you”. Targeting pets of family or friends who aid their escape.

Using Children

Harming/killing children’s pets to intimidate. Blaming the “disappearance” on them to create a wedge between them and the children.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ANIMAL ABUSE



97%

of survivors said that keeping their animals with them is an important factor in deciding to seek shelter from domestic violence.

50%

of survivors would not consider shelter for themselves if they could not take their animals with them.

91%

of survivors indicated that their animals' emotional support and physical protection are significant in their ability to survive and heal.

71%

of survivors with animals entering domestic violence shelters reported that their batterer had injured, maimed, killed, or threatened family animals for revenge against or to control survivors.

68%

of domestic violence survivors delay leaving their abuser out of fear for the safety of their animals if the animals are left behind.

SOURCE: Urban Resource Institute (URI) and the National Domestic Violence Hotline (The Hotline) present the PALS Report and Survey: Breaking Barriers to Safety and Healing



ANIMAL PROTECTION NEW MEXICO
ANIMAL PROTECTION VOTERS
respect all animals • protect all animals

WHEN ANIMALS ARE ABUSED, CHILDREN ARE AT RISK



- **76%** of the time an animal is abused as part of domestic violence, it happens in the presence of a child.
- **78%** of children whose abuser threatened or harmed their family animals say they tried to protect their animals from the abuse, and
- Children who witness or experience animal cruelty or neglect are more likely to engage in the abuse of other animals and people, often **mimicking the behavior of the perpetrator.**

The answer is clear – survivors need a pathway out of violence that protects the entire family, including their animals.

COMPANION ANIMAL RESCUE EFFORT (CARE) SERVICES

CARE Helpline



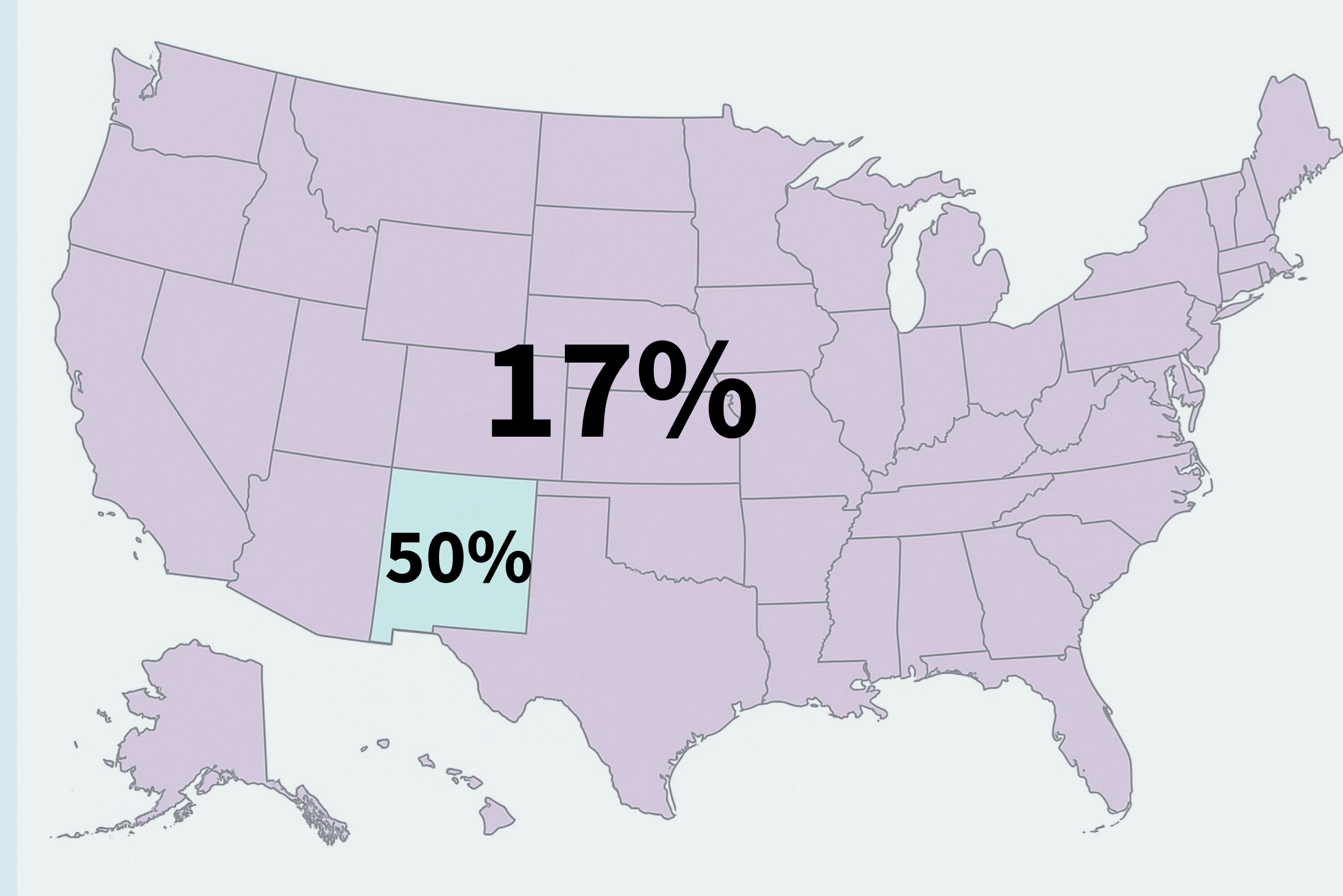
- CARE 100% confidential Helpline Mon-Fri 9AM-5PM takes calls from survivors seeking safe options for themselves and their companion animal(s).
- CARE works with 24 animal boarding facilities, and 21 veterinary clinics, around the state.
- CARE coordinates with the survivor and their advocate to get animals into safe boarding (and necessary vet care) for up to 30 days.

Through this approach, CARE has helped thousands of survivors and their animals escape violence for 25 years.

COMPANION ANIMAL RESCUE EFFORT (CARE) SERVICES (Cont.)

CARE Co-Sheltering Initiative

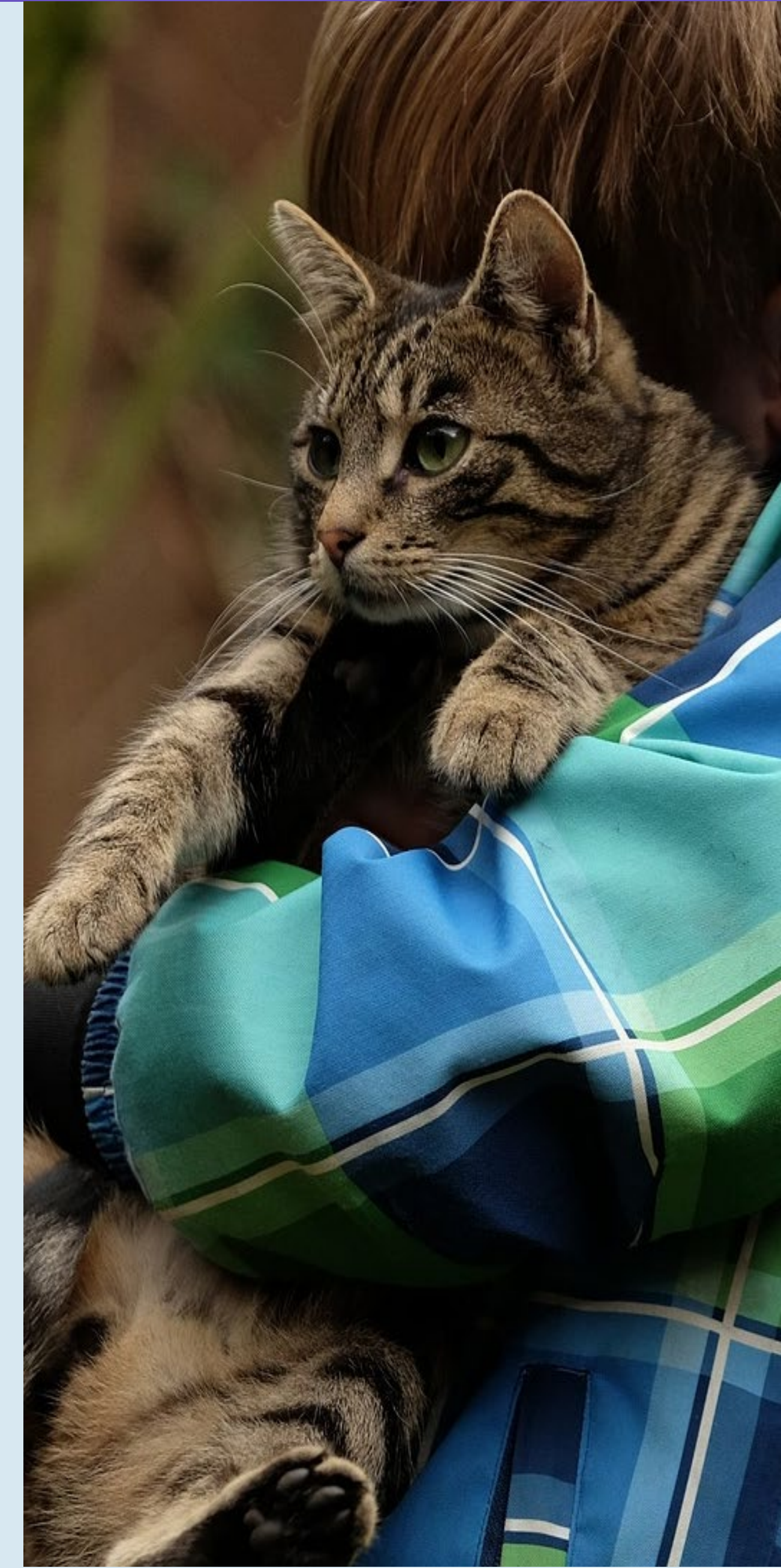
- CARE initiates & supports DV co-sheltering through site visits, detailed assessment of policies, procedures, infrastructure and capacity. Assistance is tailored to each facility's needs
- CARE follows up with recommendations, training, supplies and materials, and long-term, on-going planning and implementation.
- Through CARE almost 50% of NM DV shelters offer some form of co-sheltering (national average is 17%).



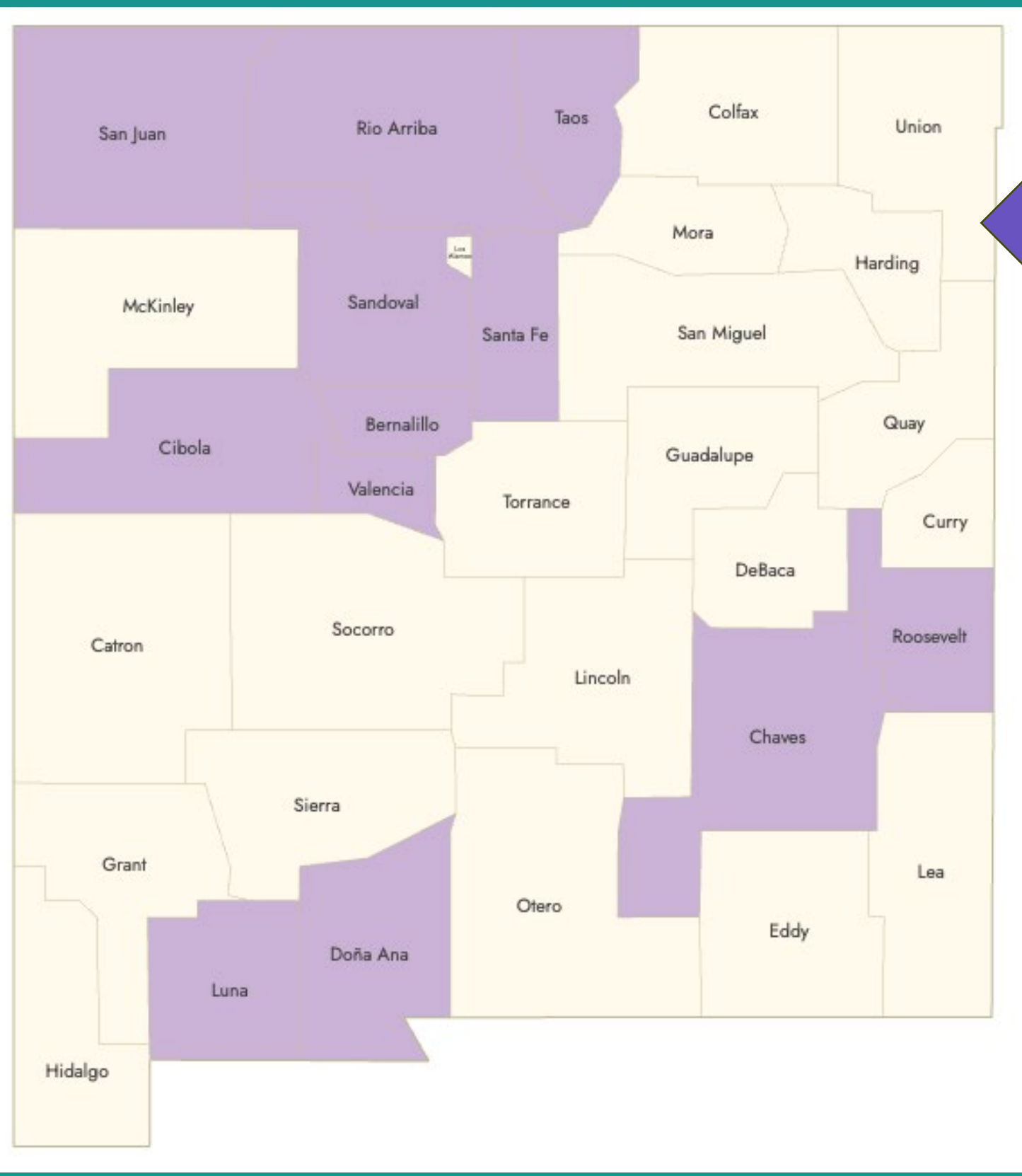
CARE has positioned New Mexico as a leader in delivering life-saving, long-lasting DV shelter enhancements via the co-sheltering model.

CARE's Impact In New Mexico

- **Since CARE began the Co-Sheltering Initiative in 2024:**
 - CARE has worked with 13 DV shelters to either initiate or expand co-sheltering in their facilities
 - DV shelters in Chaves, Cibola, Doña Ana, Eddy, Lincoln, Luna, Otero, Rio Arriba, Valencia, San Juan, and Sante Fe counties.
- **Fiscal Year 2025 CARE Numbers:**
 - Assisted 122 callers
 - Served 95 individuals and families
 - Served 137 animals
 - Survivors were from Bernalillo, Chaves, Cibola, Doña Ana, Luna, Rio Arriba, Roosevelt, Sandoval, San Juan, Santa Fe, Taos, and Valencia counties.
- **CARE helpline calls have increased 190% since 2022**



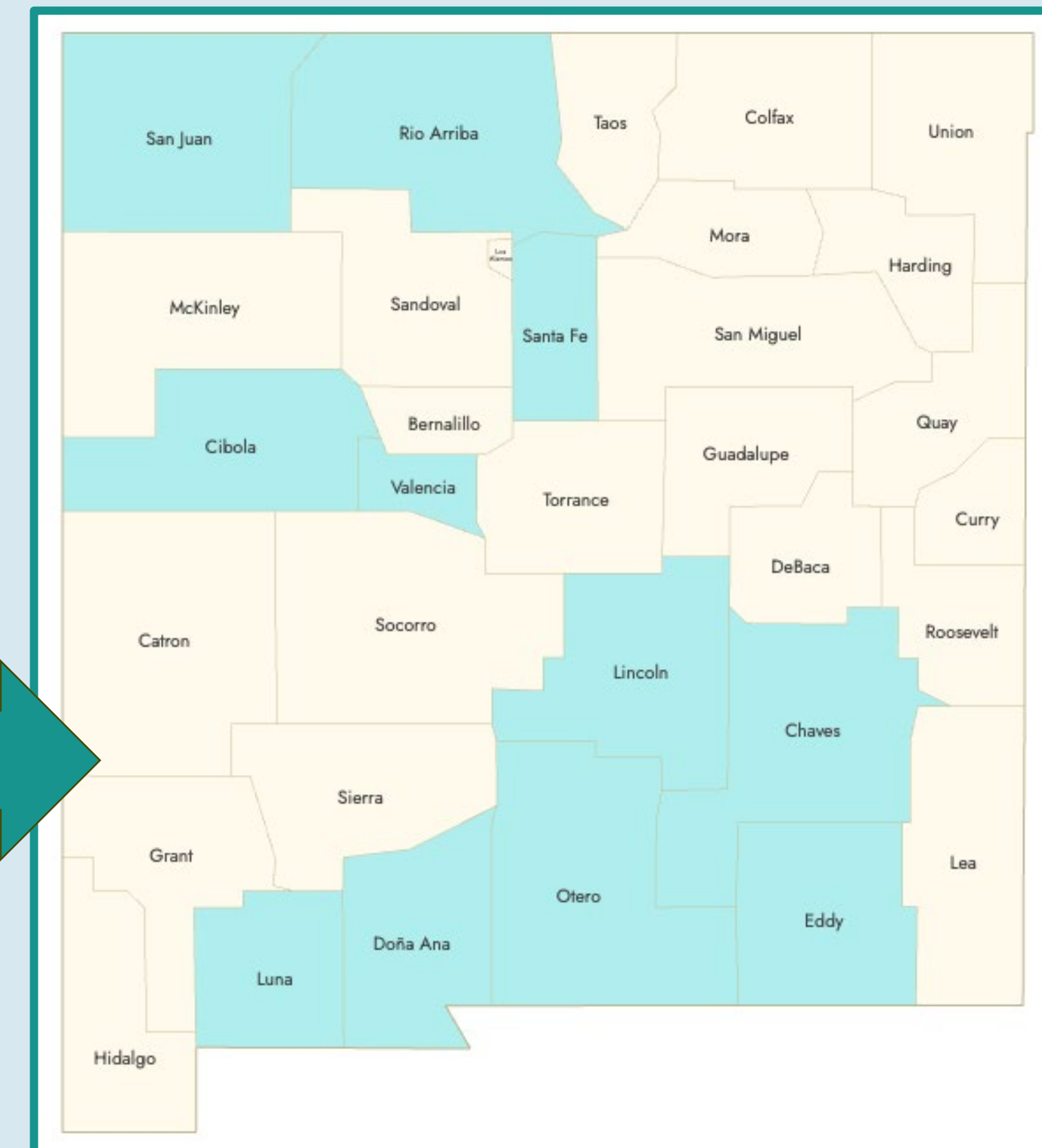
CARE's Recent Impact In New Mexico



In 2025: Served survivors from Bernalillo, Chaves, Cibola, Doña Ana, Luna, Rio Arriba, Roosevelt, Sandoval, San Juan, Santa Fe, Taos, and Valencia counties.

**CARE is available statewide.
These maps are a snapshot
of service to survivors and
DV shelters 2024-2025**

Since launching Co-sheltering in 2024, CARE has helped 13 DV shelters expand or initiate co-sheltering in the following counties: Chaves, Cibola, Doña Ana, Eddy, Lincoln, Luna, Otero, Rio Arriba, Valencia, San Juan, and Santa Fe.



CARE BUDGET NUMBERS

Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget \$262,500

- \$180,000 from GRO funding secured in the 2024 Legislative Session
- \$82,500 comes from recurring funding in CYFD's annual budget

The \$262,500 FY26 budget did not meet the need.

Funding Needed for Fiscal Years 2027 and 2028:

- CYFD contracted with APNM to deliver CARE for FY27 and FY28, but the funding has not been secured.
- CARE needs \$350,000 each year for FY27 & FY28 to continue operations.



What CARE Means to Survivors

“I didn’t know that CARE existed and when I found out about it, I was so grateful to find out that it does. He is my cat. If you weren’t able to save his life, I wouldn’t have been able to save mine.”

~ CARE client

“CARE has truly helped me more than anything to help get back on my feet. I had limitations and challenges that I couldn’t move forward without CARE's assistance. Taking care of my pets while I began rebuilding my life has been such a relief.”

~ CARE client



**Conclusion: the Time is Now to Secure CARE Funding
For New Mexico Families**