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Prairie Dog Pals is a non-profit 501(c)3 charity dedicated to the welfare, preservation and continuous humane care of prairie dogs within New Mexico. Our goal is to preserve natural native prairie dog habitats in appropriate areas. We help care for urban prairie dogs through supplemental care in barren areas and by relocation for preservation and population control. We also provide information and education about prairie dogs to the public.

Prairie Dog Pals maintains three programs that are supported by volunteers and donations:

Stewardship: Volunteers provide care, supplemental feeding, and monitoring at over 35 sites within the city of Albuquerque. Ideally prairie dogs need not be fed, however, in the urban setting the native vegetation is often inadequate to support the resident population. In these situations, volunteers provide appropriate food to sustain the prairie dogs. Populations are thinned when appropriate.

Education: Prairie Dog Pals' volunteers meet with schools, scout troops, church groups, neighborhood associations, pueblos, city, state and government agencies, special interest groups and societies, and the general public to provide information and education about prairie dogs, their habitat, and their preservation. A website is maintained to provide on line information about prairie dogs and their habits as well as information about other species and activities of the organization.

Rescue: Prairie dogs are humanly relocated from areas where they are threatened by loss of habitat or due to human conflict. The relocation process is labor intensive and expensive and involves capture, staging, observation, relocation and release. The prairie dogs are relocated to designated natural areas.

Prairie Dog Pals serves all New Mexicans by ensuring the survival of this important species! All species of prairie dogs have plummeted to 1%-2% of their historical range and populations over the last 100 years. Prairie dogs are a keystone species important to 200 other species of wildlife as primary prey or by providing homes or shelter. A number of federally protected species are dependent on prairie dogs including the Ferruginous Hawk, the Burrowing Owl, the Swift Fox and the Mountain Plover. Nine species are considered completely dependent on prairie dogs, including the Black-footed ferret, one of the most endangered mammals on earth. Prairie dogs enrich plant communities in their habitat and help to maintain the health of arid grasslands. Urban prairie dogs are much more dependent on human intervention especially during periods of drought and are constantly at peril due to encroachment and other aspects of life in developed areas. Ensuring the survival of the species is important to all New Mexicans and to our Land of Enchantment!