



A Natural Choice.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NEW MEXICO GAS COMPANY PROVIDES FUNDING TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEER FIRST RESPONDERS**

**ALBUQUERQUE** – New Mexico Gas Company has awarded \$228,000 to volunteer first responder organizations throughout New Mexico in the first round of grants under its Helping Heroes program. Awardees include:

- Elephant Butte Fire Department to provide community safety education including the distribution of carbon monoxide monitoring systems
- Mesilla Valley Search and Rescue to purchase multiple three-part lightweight titanium litter systems to aid in all-terrain rescues
- Carson Volunteer Fire Department to purchase extrication equipment
- Las Palomas Fire Department to purchase a drone that will aid in aerial monitoring
- Pinos Altos Fire Department to help purchase new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses
- Latir Volunteer Fire Department to expand a wildland fire training program
- La Cienega Fire and Rescue to purchase new Personal Protective Equipment for current and incoming volunteer first responders and
- Cochiti Fire Department to support the maintenance and replacement of wildland gear.

The Helping Heroes grant program provides financial assistance to volunteer first responder organizations in New Mexico communities served by NMGC.

"We recognize the vital role of volunteer first responders who dedicate their time and energy to protect our communities," said New Mexico Gas Company President Ryan Shell. "Their public safety commitment aligns with ours and our Helping Heroes program supports their important work."

The program accepts applications to provide financial support in several areas:

- Safety equipment
- Professional training
- Safety education
- Recruitment efforts
- Behavioral Health support

Applications for 2025 funding are open. For information about eligibility and application procedures, volunteer first responder organizations can visit [https://www.nmgco.com/en/in\\_your\\_community](https://www.nmgco.com/en/in_your_community).

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### **About New Mexico Gas Company**

As the largest natural gas distribution utility in the state, New Mexico Gas Company ([www.nmgco.com](http://www.nmgco.com)) provides service to more than 550,000 homes and businesses throughout New Mexico. The Company has about 740 employees in 26 offices, who are responsible for safely and reliably operating more than 12,000 miles of pipelines. New Mexico Gas Company is a subsidiary of Emera Inc., an expert team of utility and energy services companies serving 2.5 million customers in the U.S., Canada, and the Caribbean. Emera is headquartered in Halifax, Nova Scotia.