

Vermont Police Canine Association
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Saving lives is priceless; help us guarantee that finances are not a deterrent for departments desiring a canine program.

The Vermont Police Canine Association is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) that helps to financially support the police canine teams in Vermont and parts of New Hampshire. We currently have over 50 canine teams that we work with to ensure that they have needed training, equipment, and supplies.

We understand that initiating and maintaining a canine program can be very costly. While some departments have the budgets to support their canine team, other departments may struggle with this financial burden. Our association feels very strongly that the benefits of having a canine team greatly outweigh the costs associated, therefore, our association works to assist departments with these financial burdens. We've been asked numerous times "If a department cannot afford a canine program, then why do they have one?" and our answer is simple, you cannot put a price on locating a missing child or loved one.

In order to accomplish our goals, we hold several fundraiser events throughout the year. We are in the midst of planning our 7th annual ball and silent auction fundraiser. This event has three main goals; to raise money for our association, to give our supporters a chance to meet some of our canine teams so they can learn about the canine program, and to recognize our handlers for their dedication and the demanding and challenging work that having a canine entail. We want to share with our supporters the awards that these teams earn and show our gratitude for what they do every day to help our communities.

In addition to the financial costs of maintaining a canine program, when a canine retires, there are even greater financial burdens that come with having a canine that has worked intensely and selflessly pushed their body to its limits on a daily basis. While most of the financial burden of having a canine fall on the department where that canine works, once the canine retires, most times that burden is then transferred onto its handler. We have a separate fund called Lacey's Fund to help with this burden. Lacey's Fund is used to cover medical and veterinary cost for our retired canines so these obligations do not fall on the handler.

We are reaching out to people and businesses within our communities to help us continue our goal. If you are interested in making a donation, donating an auction item, or contributing to our event in another manner, please contact Emily Leinoff at Emily.VPCA@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your support of the Vermont Police Canine Association.