



Carolyn Corbett
C.A.R.E.S. Executive Director & Founder

Carolyn Corbett is the founder of **Canine Assisted Reduction of Eventful Stress (C.A.R.E.S.)™**, the groundbreaking program in which specially trained canines work side-by-side with victim advocate volunteers to support and assist victims of traumatic events or crimes.

For more than seven years, Carolyn worked to construct the C.A.R.E.S. program after her work with the victims of the Columbine High School shooting in 1999, for which she received the "Columbine Police Service Ribbon" from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department. Although Carolyn had worked as a volunteer victim advocate for more than 10 years, she balanced the sometimes draining emotional investment of this position by passionately dedicating time to the intense training of her Golden Retrievers, Caitee and Tallulah, to become registered Delta Society Pet Partners. Through C.A.R.E.S., she has united her two passions.

Because of her deep understanding of the intricate personalities of both victims and dogs, she knew how positively and effectively canines could help victims during and after traumatic events. Carolyn herself is a survivor of domestic violence. She credits her Golden Retriever, Chelsea, who has since passed, for giving her the strength, confidence, comfort and love she needed during court proceedings. With Chelsea's unconditional love, Carolyn realized her self-worth and was able to turn what could have been a life-ending situation into an opportunity for empowerment and a chance to positively affect the lives of others.

Carolyn fiercely believed in her program and worked tirelessly to illustrate its importance and place in law enforcement. In 2007, C.A.R.E.S. was officially recognized and approved by the City of Westminster and Westminster Police Department for integration into the Westminster Victim Services Unit, making it the first of its kind in the country.

Today, Carolyn acts as executive director and founder of C.A.R.E.S., working to educate law enforcement agencies throughout the country on how to duplicate the C.A.R.E.S. program. Carolyn and Caitee remain on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week to assist at emergencies where the Westminster Victim Services Unit is on the scene. This human-canine team is also a member of the Jefferson/Gilpin Community Crisis Response Team to assist in any major event that may occur. Additionally, she and Caitee also work in Animal-Assisted Therapy at the Acute Rehabilitation Unit at the University of Colorado Hospital. Carolyn was also approached by Del Monte Foods "Milk-Bone® Canine Heroes™ program, Power of Paws™ to share her and Caitee's story. Filmed during the summer of 2008, they shared their story for the world, and are featured on the Power of Paws™ website. Additionally, Milk-Bone® has approached Carolyn and Caitee to do additional commercials and filming for the program.

Carolyn, her husband, Phillip, and their Goldens, Caitee and Tallulah, make their home in Westminster, Colorado. In addition to her advocacy work growing and running C.A.R.E.S, Carolyn also makes time for another true love, her flute. A professional flutist, Carolyn has managed a flute studio for 30 years and has served as director of the CCC Flute Choir; she continues to teach and perform professionally across the country. Carolyn graduated cum laude with a bachelor of music in flute performance from Wichita State University in Wichita, Kansas.