

## White Sands Rotary Charity Golf Classic Raises Over \$15,000 for Community Impact

Alamogordo, NM, April, 15, 2026

The Rotary Club of White Sands hosted its annual White Sands Rotary Charity Golf Classic this past Saturday at Desert Lakes Golf Course, raising more than **\$15,000** to support local initiatives and nonprofit partners.

A portion of this year's proceeds will benefit Otero County Special Olympics (OCSO), a growing organization dedicated to providing year-round sports training and competition for athletes with intellectual disabilities in the Otero County area.

The event brought together community members, local businesses, and volunteers for a day centered on service, connection, and giving back, reflecting Rotary's guiding motto, "*Service Above Self.*"

One of the day's highlights was the always-anticipated **golf ball drop**, made possible through the support of the Alamogordo Fire Department, adding excitement and community spirit to the tournament.

The Rotary Club extends special recognition to its **premier and major sponsors**, whose generosity plays a vital role in making this event, and the club's year-round impact, possible. Top sponsors include **Billy Goat, Desert Sun Foundation, REMAX of Alamogordo, Casa Auto Group, Gateway Mortgage (Dani Alpers), Porky's Heating & Cooling, and Pioneer Abstract & Title of Alamogordo**. In total, more than 35 sponsors and in-kind donors contributed to the success of this year's tournament. A full list of sponsors is available at [www.whitesandsrotary.org](http://www.whitesandsrotary.org).

In addition to the tournament, a **silent auction** helped further increase funds to support local causes.

The club also extends heartfelt thanks to its **dedicated Rotary members and their families**, whose time and energy made the event possible, as well as the **volunteers and athletes from Otero County Special Olympics**, whose presence made the day even more meaningful.

"Thank you to the Rotary Club of White Sands, sponsors, teams, and volunteers who made this golf tournament possible," said Doyle Syling, volunteer and coach for Otero County Special Olympics. "Your support helps provide opportunities for our athletes to train, compete, and grow, building confidence, friendships, and lifelong skills. Because of this incredible community, our athletes continue to shine on and off the field. We are truly grateful."

As part of its continued outreach, Otero County Special Olympics will host a **Team Celebration and Community Awareness Event** on **Saturday, April 18**, from **11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** at the north end of Oregon Park, behind Alamogordo City Hall. Community members are invited to meet athletes, coaches, and volunteers, enjoy free lunch and desserts, and participate in activities such as cornhole and bocce ball. Those interested in getting more involved can contact Cambri Syling at 575-430-4802 or Doyle Syling at 575-921-5812.

Throughout the year, the Rotary Club of White Sands remains deeply engaged in the community through a variety of service projects and programs. These include hosting the **Roadrunner Mobile Food Pantry** the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month in Boles Acres, building accessibility ramps in partnership with the New Mexico Ramp Project, presenting the "**Don't Meth With Us**" program to local 5th graders, and teaching

2nd-grade students important life values through “Andy & Elmer’s Apple Dumpling Adventure,” which highlights the Rotary Four-Way Test.

Community members interested in learning more, getting involved, or supporting Rotary’s work are encouraged to visit [www.whitesandsrotary.org](http://www.whitesandsrotary.org) or connect with the club on Facebook. The Rotary Club of White Sands meets every Thursday at noon at the Christus of Southern New Mexico Conference Center and welcomes visitors.

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