



Saturday, April 1, 2023

8:30am – 4:30pm (Eastern)

Primo Banquet Hall & Conference Center
2615 National Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46227

AGENDA

7:30 -8:30am **Registration, Continental Breakfast & Networking**

8:30- 8:40am **Welcome & Introductions**
Buffy Phyne - Pet Friendly Services Board Member & Reporter

Did you know that the Pet Friendly License Plate has raised more than FIVE MILLION DOLLARS? And did you know that Pet Friendly Services has invested EVERY PENNY of these funds into spay/neuter surgeries? We are here to help shelters and rescues succeed! We value the work you're doing and the lives you are saving.



8:40 – 9:10am **Pet Friendly Services - Programs & Strategies**
Cheri Storms – Executive Director, Pet Friendly Services of Indiana

What exactly does Pet Friendly Services fund and why? Learn more about our targeted approach to preventing shelter intake and helping shelters move adoptable animals into forever homes.

9:10 - 10am

A One-Health Approach to Animal Welfare

Dr. Aria Peavy - Public Vet

Overpopulation and neglect of domestic animals is a complex problem that has been plaguing our country. Animal overpopulation not only introduces increased suffering but also room for increased disease spread, human health risks and environmental burden. We will examine the hurdles that spay/ neuter programs, animal welfare groups, and policy (or lack thereof) have had due to lack of clear consensus on overpopulation. We will review what consensus on overpopulation entails and introduce what a One Health “standard” looks like and what it has to offer to these complex problems while allowing opportunity for self-assessment networking and strategic partnerships.

10 – 10:15am

Networking Break

10:15-11:15am

Technology Solutions to Engage Your Community to Find Fosters & Volunteers and Help Reduce Shelter Intake

Chris Roy – Founder & President, Doobert

Doobert’s online software platform is like Match.com specifically for animal shelters and rescues. Doobert helps find new partners and volunteers so you can serve more animals and save more lives. Best of all, it’s free!

11:15-11:35am

Training, Resources & Legal Updates for Indiana Animal Welfare Investigators

Hannah Fisher - Animal Welfare Operations Director, State Board of Animal Health

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health recently launched an Animal Investigations Academy to train Animal Control Officers. This program provides the training needed to help officers negotiate an often-dangerous job. Learn more about this new program and how to register for upcoming trainings.

11:35 – 11:50am

Indiana HSUS & ASPCA Updates

Samantha Chapman (HSUS) & Sana Azem (ASPCA)

This year’s Indiana legislative session is wrapping up. Learn about the animal welfare bills that may impact your organization, and the plans for the 2024 session.

11:50- 12:10am

Break & Italian Buffet Lunch

12:10 – 1:10pm

Lunch & Keynote Speaker

Mental Fitness for Animal Welfare Professionals & Advocates

Kimble Richardson, M.S., LMHC, LCSW, LMFT, LCAC
Manager, Business Development and Referrals
Community Health Network - Behavioral Health

Animal welfare workers are not immune to difficult times and situations. Most people are volunteers, there is little money to cover costs, the pandemic made things worse, and there's even a veterinarian shortage. Those issues will not resolve quickly. But what can be different is your personal health and wellbeing. Moving from mental health to mental fitness is an ideological shift. It asks you to make health purposeful and routine. Learn about the effects of trauma, techniques that can mitigate the effects of critical incidents, and consider a peer support program that could be implemented specifically for animal welfare and veterinarian professions.

1:10 – 2:25pm

Shelter Strategies Panel

Virgil Sauder - Director, City of Bloomington Animal Care & Control
Kendall Paul – CEO, Vanderburg Humane Society
Jessica Henry – Executive Director, Humane Fort Wayne
Jane Weatherford – Treasurer, Brown County Humane Society
Sharon Dull – Crystal Creek (Tippecanoe Co.)
Q&A

Indiana shelters are implementing creative solutions to best manage shelter intake, increase pet retention, facilitate spay/neuter surgeries, raise funds, and change ordinances. The ultimate goal is to minimize euthanasia and provide a great quality of life for cats and dogs.

2:25 – 2:40pm

Networking Break

2:40 – 3:15pm

Vet Shortage & Creative Solutions

Cheri Storms – Pet Friendly Services of Indiana
Ruth Steinberger, Executive Director – Spay First! Oklahoma

The vet shortage is looming large and will take years to resolve itself. What can we do in the interim to increase spay/neuter capacity across our state? Spay FIRST! Oklahoma shares creative solutions to engage vets and achieve more.

3:15 – 3:50pm

Expediting Adoptions to Save More Dogs

Kendall Paul – CEO, Vanderburg Humane Society

The Vanderburgh Humane Society is removing barriers to pet adoption. Their goal is to say “Yes” to adoptions while ensuring placements are well-matched. Learn more about this successful program to give adoptable animals their best opportunity in life.

3:50 – 4:30pm

Cat Cafés – Increasing Exposure & Adoptions

Kelley Niiyama – Owner, Nine Lives Cat Café

Kendall Paul – CEO, Vanderburg Humane Society

Karen Wolfe – Executive Director, Kokomo Humane Society

Kadra Hillis - Director of Operations, Kokomo Humane Society

Cat Cafés are popping up across Indiana and are increasing adoptions! But is a cat café right for you? Different business models offer both strengths and drawbacks.

4:30pm

Adjourn