

2018

ADOPTION OPTIONS: COMMUNITY



APRIL 25 • ATLANTA, GA

8:30-9:00: Registration

9:00 – 10:00: **Welcome & Getting the Most out of Petfinder – Katie Heck**

10:15 – 11:30: **Shelter Medicine 101 - Dr. Jenny Morris, DVM**

This workshop will review some of the common challenges shelters and rescue groups face in preventing infectious diseases and keeping the animals in their care healthy. We'll focus on tips and tools that are critical to improving health and welfare, including optimal animal care practices, strategies to reduce disease transmission, health examinations, vaccination protocols and sanitation procedures. A summary of available resources for further information will be provided as well as some time for Q&A to cover those topics most important to you.

11:30 – 12:30: **Networking Lunch with Speakers and Attendees**

12:30 – 1:45: **Helping Pets by Supporting People: A Comprehensive Approach to Community Welfare - Kim Wolf**

In every community certain pets are more "at risk" for entering the shelter system and less likely to leave through the front door. But, the animals are just one part of this story: for every pet that ends up in the shelter, there is a human component as well. This presentation will take a holistic approach to helping "at risk" animals by understanding the challenges and barriers facing people in our communities, especially those that threaten the human-animal bond. The presentation will show how a multidisciplinary approach can more accurately assess risk factors and identify opportunities for improvement. Drawing upon social work, economics, marketing, and public policy to help attendees assess their community's strengths and challenges, the presentation will share best practices from results-oriented groups around the country. By moving our discussions beyond animal welfare to community welfare as a whole, we can implement a comprehensive approach that benefits people and pets alike.

2:00 – 3:15: **The Smoothest Ride: Creating a Collaborative Transfer Program – EC Michaels**

All over the country animals are on the move in search of their forever homes. Whether by plane or by vehicle, transfer, transport and relocation programs have taken the front seat for shelters and rescues of all shapes and sizes. This presentation goes over everything from the basics and best practice of transfer, examples of operating procedures, tips and tricks to creating successful source and destination shelter matches as well as new ideas and methods of collaboration. Whether you are just starting a program or looking for innovation, come along for a ride!

3:30 – 4:45: **Enrichment Essentials – CJ Bentley**

We've come a long way, baby! We all agree that enrichment is important, right? The brain needs exercise just as much as the body does. Providing enrichment opportunities for our felines and canines helps keep them both mentally and physically healthier – which means happier animals, shorter lengths of stay, less sickness. It's all good! Join us for the fun stuff. We'll discuss enrichment programs from the simple (and inexpensive) to the more complicated, for those ready for the next step. Our discussion will also include matching enrichment "toys" with the animals who can best benefit from them. The very best programs are not one-size-fits all. Let's get creative!

Speaker Bios:

Katie Heck – Purina & Petfinder

Katie is the Shelter Partnerships Lead on Purina's Pet Welfare Team. Her career started at the Central Missouri Humane Society as a volunteer-turned- Adoption Counselor, which eventually led her to a job at Purina. She was previously a Shelter Outreach Specialist for Petfinder and currently manages all animal welfare conferences for her team, as well as the Adoption Options workshop series. She lives in St. Louis, MO with her aspiring dog models, Lenny and Sullie, who can be found lounging next to her desk at work every day.

Dr. Jenny Morris – Atlanta Humane Society

Dr. Morris graduated from Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2004. She was in private small animal practice for 3 years before joining the Humane Society of South Mississippi in 2007. She served there as Chief Veterinarian for 7 years and became a fellow with the University of Wisconsin/ASPCA Shelter Medicine fellowship in 2014. Dr. Morris has been the Director of Shelter Medicine at Atlanta Humane Society since 2015. Her professional focus is on consulting with struggling shelters to improve animal wellbeing throughout the state of Georgia and beyond. Additionally she enjoys training veterinary students in shelter medicine and surgery to increase awareness in the veterinary community of the needs of shelters.

EC Michaels – Foothills Animal Shelter

EC got her start in animal welfare in 2008 working for a Greek equine non-profit with a small dog shelter in Corfu, Greece. After moving to Denver, Colorado, she took a job at the Denver Dumb Friends League with roles in Adoptions, Intake, Foster eventually managing the Transfer Program. The program moved over 11,000 animals in its first 2 years and worked with over 100 partners. Currently, she is the Assistant Director of Operations at Foothills Animal Shelter in Golden, Colorado.

CJ Bentley – Atlanta Humane Society

CJ is currently the Director of Behavior and Training at the Atlanta Humane Society. Prior to that, she spent nearly 20 years with the Michigan Humane Society, the last 12 of which she functioned as their Sr. Director of Operations. CJ is also an instructor for Oakland University's (in Michigan) Animal Assisted Therapy certification program and is a guest speaker and published author on dog behavior and training. She is a current member of APDT.

Kim Wolf – ARL of Iowa

Kim is the Founder + Director of Beyond Breed (www.beyondbreed.com), a nonprofit supporting the bond between people and pets. Kim has more than a decade of professional experience in social work and animal welfare, including her current role as the Community Outreach Coordinator at the Animal Rescue League of Iowa. Her previous experience includes positions at the Pennsylvania SPCA, Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program, and numerous social service agencies. In addition to presenting frequently at animal welfare conferences, Kim has trained dozens of human services agencies on integrating pet care topics into their programs. Kim lives in Des Moines with her three dogs, Mary Todd Lincoln, Cappy and Snickers, and her cat, Miss Kitty.