



ADOPTION OPTIONS COMMUNITY

CONFERENCE TOUR

2019

8:30-9:00: Registration

9:00 – 10:00: **Welcome & Getting the Most out of Petfinder – Angela Smith, Purina/Petfinder**

10:15 – 11:30: **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!

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

12:30 – 1:45: **Beyond Spay/Neuter: Innovative Programs & Practices to Decrease the Number of Pets Relinquished to Animal Shelters & Rescue Groups.**

Over the past few decades, the animal welfare field has made tremendous strides in reducing the homeless animal population through spay/neuter programs. While we still have a ways to go, new programs have emerged to keep pets out of shelters/rescues and in their original homes. This presentation will provide an overview of innovative programs that are effectively addressing the risk factors for pet relinquishment. Topics will include access to affordable veterinary care and pet food, temporary pet care for people experiencing a crisis (e.g., domestic violence, emergency hospitalization, inpatient treatment programs for mental health or substance use disorder), support for vulnerable older adults and people with disabilities, and safety nets for people living in poverty. Audience members will learn evidence-based practices for conducting needs assessments, building a new program, funding and sustaining a program, and collaborating with community partners. Whether you are a brick-and-mortar shelter or a home-based rescue group, and regardless of your staff size and budget, this presentation will give you practical tools and tips to keep more pets with their original owners and decrease the number of animals that are relinquished in your community.

2:00 – 3:15: **Enrichment Essentials – CJ Bentley, Atlanta Humane Society**

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!

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3:30 – 4:45: **Secrets of Success in the Small Shop – Sandy Rees, Get Fully Funded**

What if you could raise a lot of money to cover all your nonprofit's expenses? What if you could do it without selling T-shirts, without car washes, and without Buffalo Wild Wings night? What if you could not only raise money, but raise every last dollar you need to fund your budget - overhead and all? It's totally possible! It just takes the right message to the right people at the right time. Join us for this workshop and learn the 3 simple steps to fully funding your work so you can help more people and do it with less stress and more fun. We'll cover how to find ideal donor prospects, how to craft a heart-warming, wallet-opening message, and do it all with perfect timing so you never feel sleazy asking for money.

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