

2025 Animal Care Expo Round Table Discussions

Join us in the Summit Ballroom (Room 212) for an opportunity to sit with a small group of peers for a deep-dive discussion on topics from the field of animal sheltering and rescue. We will have two sessions with the topics and table hosts below. Many topics span multiple categories so no matter your interest, we encourage you to browse the full list of available tables.

Wednesday, April 16 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 16 1:45 – 2:45 p.m.

Seats at the tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Look for the color-coded sign and table number on each table. You do not need to pre-register for this event. Views expressed and materials distributed by table hosts are solely their own and not that of Humane World for Animals.

** indicates morning Spanish language session; ** indicates afternoon Spanish language session*

Access to Care (Orange)

Case management in temporary animal fostering programs

Aubrey Tesch, Social Worker and Foster Program Coordinator, WisCARES Veterinary Clinic

Federal downsizing and immigration policy impacts on local people and pets

Adam Parascandola, Vice President, Animal Rescue Team, Humane World for Animals

Improving access to care through mobile community medicine

Isabelle Gullo, Executive Director & Cofounder, C.A.R.E.4Paws

Pet-inclusive rental housing

Jessica Simpson, Sr. Public Policy Specialist, Humane World for Animals

Supporting the shelter veterinarian's role in access to care

Jennifer Bennett, Director of Shelter Medicine and Access to Care, UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program

Working with tribal communities

Sheila Iyengar, CEO, Nagi Foundation

All Animals Big and Small (Red)

Alternatives to the inhumane practice of trapping and relocating

Mela Singleton, Owner, 911 Wildlife

Balancing wild animal conservation and companion animal safety

Samantha Hagio, Director, Wildlife Protection, Humane World for Animals

Challenges and innovations in urban animal rescue

Shahla Ibrahim, Deputy CEO, Kurdistan Animal Protection Organization

Helping the pet victims of wildlife traps

Jill Fritz, Senior Director, Wildlife Protection, Humane World for Animals

Getting and keeping companion rabbits in homes

Carol Tinga, Postdoctoral Fellow, Population Medicine Department, Ontario Veterinary College

Behavior (Bright Pink)

Behavior problems & the fourth domain of animal welfare

Kim Brophay, Family Dog Mediation Education Center

Embracing transparency in dog behavior

Devan Amundsen, Principal, Animal Welfare United

Feral and unsocialized dogs in a sheltering setting

Cameron Bonitto, Canine Behaviorist/Trainer, Underdog Rescue and Rehab

Practical strategies for managing feline behavior in shelters

Molly DeVoss, Executive Director, Cat Behavior Solutions

Understanding the emotional lives of dogs

Victoria Stilwell, Dog Trainer and Behavior Expert, Positively

Using positive reinforcement to modify behavior in shelters

Tabitha Kucera, RVT, VTS (Behavior), CCBC, KPA-CTP, Chirrup and Chatter

Cats (Light Pink)

Cat colony caregivers support group

Corey Roscoe, Director, Policy Volunteer Program, Humane World for Animals

Developing sustainable kitten programs

Marnie Russ, Founder, National Kitten College

Engaging the community for assistance with TNR projects

Kristen Petrie, Technical Tabby, The Community Cats Podcast

Enhancing community cat programs

Danielle Bays, Senior Analyst, Cat Protection and Policy, Humane World for Animals

The importance of cat enrichment in the shelter

Denise Folcik, ABCCT Certified Cat Trainer, Humane Animal Welfare Society

TNR tips and tricks

Leigh O'Bryan, Program Manager, Policy Volunteer Operations, Humane World for Animals

Community Outreach (Light Purple)

Community outreach meetup: Share your success stories

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Matching senior animals with senior humans

Alice Ensor, Adoptions Supervisor, Muttville Senior Dog Rescue

Service providers and strategic community partnership

Maggie Hernandez, Community Care Coordinator, Anti-Cruelty

Rachael Villaseñor, LCSW, Pets for Life Coordinator, Anti-Cruelty

Strategies to harmonize companion animals, wildlife and communities

****Estrategias para armonizar la convivencia entre animales de compañía, vida silvestre y comunidades**

Sofia Herra-Vargas, Program Manager, Cruelty and Companion Animals, Latin America, Humane World for Animals

Using your voice to change policy for animals

Erin Huang, Senior Specialist, State Affairs, Humane World for Animals

Field Services (Dark Purple)

Building relationships with law enforcement and prosecutors

Jessica Johnson, Senior Director, Animal Rescue Team, Humane World for Animals

Exploring chemical immobilization: Tools, techniques and protocols

Mark R. Johnson DVM, Wildlife Veterinarian and CEO, Global Wildlife Resources

From fear to trust: Understanding behavior to improve field outcomes

Philip Goen, Field Services Manager, Broward County Animal Care

Improving pet licensing practices and compliance

Steve Zeidman, Managing Partner, BarkPass LLC

Policy solutions for puppy mills and problem breeders

Ariel Lefkovits, Public Policy Specialist, Puppy Mills, Humane World for Animals

Technology and tools for managing disasters

John Peaveler, Owner and Principal Consultant, Humane Innovations

The future of field services: Community focused support

Mike Wheeler, Director of Community Services, Cabot Animal Support Services

Understanding cost of care laws for your cruelty case

Shalimar Oliver, Animal Crimes Manager, Humane World for Animals

Global (Dark Blue)

Being resilient to crises and disasters in an ever-changing world

Kelly Donithan, Director, Global Animal Disaster Response, Humane World for Animals

Coordinate and empower volunteers in global disasters

Felipe Marquez, Program Manager, Latin America Disaster Response, Humane World for Animals

Street cat population management and welfare

Sudhersena Alalasundaram, Volunteer, Blue Cross of India

Tackling the dog meat trade, animal law and advocacy

Dr. Merry Fernandez, Chief Operation Officer, JAAN Domestic Indonesia Foundation

Adrian Jane, Legal and Advocacy Manager, JAAN Domestic Indonesia Foundation

Leadership (Blue)

Breaking down silos and building trust among teams

Heather Dolson, Vice President of Lifesaving Programs, Operation Kindness

Embracing budgets: Getting staff involved in creation and accountability

Cindy Gendron, Senior Director, Sanctuary Management, Humane World for Animals

Increasing engagement and managing conflict with your board

Gregg Tully, Principal, Gregg Tully Consulting

Leadership meetup: Challenges and successes in animal welfare

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Navigating leadership in a changing landscape

Raissa Allaire, Executive Director, Tree House Humane Society

Succession planning for your organization

Kelly Furnas, Chief Operating Officer, Operation Kindness

Using data to drive strategy and assess success

Jordan Craig, Executive Director, Spay Neuter Network

Marketing and Resources (Light Blue)

Gaining corporate support in animal welfare

Linda Baker, Director, Corporate Sponsorships, Humane World for Animals

Grant funding and how to be grant ready

Lisa Pearce, Senior Grants Administrator, Charleston Animal Society

Grow revenue by incorporating retail

Michelle Huie, Founder and CEO, ShopDot Pet

Funding strategies to maximize the impact of TNR programs

Stacy LeBaron, Head Cat, Community Cats Podcast

John D. Boone, Consultant, Humane World for Animals

Marketing and resources swap: Share your strategies

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Media relations and publicity tips

Kirsten Peek, Manager of Media Relations, Humane World for Animals

Strategies to secure funding and sustainable donations

Austin Meadows, Account Manager, Donorbox

Shelter Design (Teal)

Ask an architect: Open forum for animal welfare design

Kim Hanschen, Principal, Jackson & Ryan Architects

Practical shelter renovations to support animals, staff and your community

Heather Lewis, Principal, Animal Arts Design Studios, Inc.

Tackling odor, disease and noise in animal shelters

Scott Learned, President, Design Learned Inc.

What comes first: "needs assessment" vs "fund raising"

Tracy Cantrell, Director of Sales, Shelter Planners of America

What to consider when you are looking to build, expand or enhance your facility

Jennifer Phang, VP of Design Operations – Seattle, MD Architects

Shelter Operations (Green)

Building effective dog training classes

Beverley McKee, Senior Manager, Public Services, Toronto Humane Society

Closing the gap between microchipped pets and owner information

Patricia Karwowski, Senior Director of Animal Welfare and Pet Registry, Revival Animal Health

Coming through distemper

Brandy Ellison, Director of Inbound Operations, Young-Williams Animal Center

Creating a return-to-home culture in your agency

Jackie Rose, Chief Strategy Officer, DocuPet

Early cancer detection and support for shelter pets

Tricia Montgomery, Founder and President, Moose's March Inc.

Euthanasia and how responsible decision making will save more animals

Mike Keiley, Vice President, Animal Protection Division, MSPCA-Angell

Impacting animal populations through transports and adoptions

Heather Owen, Executive Director One Tail at a Time

Integrating case management: Strengthening support, decision-making and outcomes

Cindy Iacopella, Georgia State Director, Humane World for Animals

Integrating TCM's five element personalities into shelter protocols

Elizabeth Anne Johnson, Author, Animal Healer/Bodyworker, 4Legged Wellness

Leveraging AI for data analysis, efficiency and storytelling

Dean Daubert, President and CEO, Anderson Humane

Post adoption support

Renee Wolfgramm, Head of Shelter Partnerships, Petszel

Reducing barriers to increase adoptions and pet reunifications

Teresa Johnson, President, Shelter Partners Consulting LLC

Removing the judgement from the surrender process

Alyssa Krieger, Director of Community Outreach, MSPCA-Angell

Saving lives by changing from sanctuary to adoption center

Ashley Armstrong, Executive Director, We Care Animal Rescue

Veterinary Medicine (Lime Green)

Ask the veterinarian

Becca Boronat, Veterinarian, Best Friends Animal Society

Contextualized care: Finding the best care for each situation

Sarah Mantovani, Veterinarian, Rural Area Veterinary Services, Humane World for Animals

Mobile veterinary spay/neuter clinics

Michelle Gonzalez, Veterinarian, Rascal Unit

Shelter medicine

Erin Katribe, Director, National Veterinary Programs, Best Friends Animal Society

Strategies for partnering with veterinarians

Raye Taylor, Veterinarian, Taylor Veterinary Services

Training and transformation: Veterinarians leading change***Capacitación y transformación: Veterinarios liderando el cambio**

Diana Rodriguez, Senior Program Manager, Companion Animals, Latin America, Humane World for Animals

Vet and vet tech meetup: Successes and challenges in veterinary medicine

Richard Ssusna, Senior Veterinarian, Liberia Second Chance Chimpanzee Refuge, Humane World for Animals

Volunteers (Yellow)

Best practices in volunteer recruitment, management and retention

Brian Halderman, Senior Director of Success & Outreach, GivePulse

Engaging your volunteers

Lisa Wetherby, Animal Rescue Volunteer Program Manager, Human World for Animals

Professionalizing our field: Service Enterprise accreditation and Certified Volunteer Administrators

Kari Nienstedt, Senior Director, Volunteer Outreach and Engagement, Humane World for Animals

Removing barriers and retaining foster parents

Aleksandra Ruutsaar Klingenstein, Lead Foster Coordinator, Maryland SPCA

Specialized training for shelter volunteers

Melissa Taylor, Behavior and Training Manager, Friends For Life Animal Shelter

Volunteer manager meetup: Share your successes and challenges

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Wellness (White)

Being present for owner present euthanasia

Kelly Bremken, Veterinary Social Worker, Oregon Humane Society

Organizational practices to support staff resilience

Jessica Dolce, Founder, The Compassion in Balance Program

What the fluff? Tackling tough decisions

Sarah Bowen, Executive Director and Animal Chaplain, Compassion Consortium

Workplace wellness: Share your tips and ideas

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