



**Summit on Social Isolation and Companion Animals
May 7, 2019
Capital Hilton, Washington, DC
Federal AB, Second Floor**

Agenda

8:00 a.m. Attendee Registration

8:00 a.m. **Breakfast**

8:30 a.m. **Welcome & Introductions**

- [Rena Crumplen](#), Mars Petcare

8:40 a.m. **Opening Remarks**

- [Pamela Mars Wright](#)
- [Collette Bunton](#), Whistle

9:10 a.m. **Purpose & Vision for the Social Isolation and Companion Animals Summit**

- [Steven Feldman](#), Human Animal Bond Research Institute (HABRI)

Section 1 – Overview of Social Isolation, Loneliness & Human Animal Interaction (HAI)

9:25 a.m. **Social Isolation, Loneliness & Public Health**

- Discussion: [Dr. Vivek H. Murthy](#), 19th Surgeon General of the United States, with [Steven Feldman](#)

10:10 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. **HAI Research Overview**

- Speaker: [Layla Esposito](#), Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
- Speaker: [Nancy Gee](#), State University of New York at Fredonia, Department of Psychology, WALTHAM™ HAI Research Manager

.Section 2 – Older Adults, Social Isolation, Loneliness & Companion Animals

11:00 a.m. **Overview on Older Adults, Social Isolation & Loneliness**

- Why is social isolation a particular problem for older adults?
 - Speaker: [Chelsea Gilchrist](#), National Council on Aging
- Examples and elements of effective programs with animals
 - Speaker: [Mary Margaret Callahan](#), Pet Partners

Panel Discussion:

- Moderator: [Nancy Gee](#), State University of New York at Fredonia, Department of Psychology, WALTHAM™ HAI Research Manager
- Panelists:
 - [Erika Friedmann](#), University of Maryland, School of Nursing

- **Molly McAllister**, Banfield Pet Hospital
- **Dawn Carr**, Florida State University College of Social Sciences and Public Policy
- **Chelsea Gilchrist**, National Council on Aging
- **Mary Margaret Callahan**, Pet Partners

Audience Q&A

12:45 p.m. **Lunch**

Petco Foundation Video Presentation

Section 3 – People with Mental Health Challenges, Social Isolation, Loneliness & Companion Animals

1:35 p.m. **Overview on Mental Health, Social Isolation & Loneliness**

- Why is social isolation a particular problem for people with mental health challenges?
 - Speaker: **Aubrey Fine**, California State Polytechnic University, Department of Education
- Dogs on Call: A best practices hospital-based AAI program
 - Speaker: **Sandra Barker**, School of Medicine, Center for Human-Animal Interaction, Virginia Commonwealth University

Panel Discussion:

- Moderator: **James Griffin**, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
- Panelists:
 - **Megan Mueller**, Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University
 - **Zenithson Ng**, University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, College of Veterinary Medicine
 - **Dominique Apollon**, Light on Anxiety CBT Treatment Center
 - **Aubrey Fine**, California State Polytechnic University, Department of Education
 - **Sandra Barker**, School of Medicine, Center for Human-Animal Interaction, Virginia Commonwealth University

Audience Q&A

3:25 p.m. Break

3:35 p.m. **Summary & Next Steps / Action List** (HABRI & MARS Petcare)

- Summary of discussions
- Next Steps
- Reception Invitation

4:00 p.m. **Meeting Adjourns**

4:00 p.m. **Reception Sponsored by Petco Foundation**
North Gate Grill, Lobby Level

6:00 p.m. **Reception Ends**