

CANINE WELFARE SCIENCE FORUM  
June 14 – June 15, 2024  
In-Person and Virtual Event

This year's program explores the changing landscape for dog supply and demand and the urgent need for innovation, collaborative problem-solving, and use of best-practices to get dogs into homes and keep them there. Participants will learn about factors that are creating new challenges and opportunities for commercial breeders and other stakeholders aiming to do their part to support canine welfare through responsible practices. Sessions will review evidence-based practices for physical health, genetic screening, and behavioral management of dogs and how breeders can apply this knowledge, with special emphasis on the implications for successful rehoming. The need for community-building and future-proofing for sustainability and responsibility in sourcing and supply of dogs will be discussed.

Speakers include Bret Marsh, DVM, Indiana Board of Animal Health; Naomi Kirby Sismour, DVM, MS, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); Dawn C. Fitzhugh, VMD, MPH, DAACLAM, DACVPM, USDA, APHIS, Animal Care; Katie Hornberger DVM, DACT Janssen Veterinary Clinic - Repro Center; Denise Katz, DVM, The Love Pet Project; Nathan Wagler, Lovable Gold Star Puppies; Martha Boden, SPCA Tampa Bay; and Chris Fleming, Pinnacle Pet and All Dog's Dream

The program will spread over two days, beginning mid-afternoon on Friday, June 14 and concluding mid-afternoon on Saturday, June 15. After the Friday sessions, join us for an evening Reception and Awards Program. Hor d'oeuvres and soft drinks will be served. Saturday will start with an early breakfast and morning sessions. Lunch will be served and sessions will resume until mid-afternoon. We look forward to an exciting and engaging forum!

Target Audience: Dog breeders, pet industry representatives, shelter personnel, animal care specialists, veterinarians, veterinary nurses, scientists, students, legislators, NGOs, members of the public.

*Raising the bar on responsibility and sustainability of dog sourcing and supply*

# AGENDA - DAY 1

- 3:15-3:30 Welcome and acknowledgements; *Candace Croney, PhD, Purdue University*
- 3:30-3:45 The need to address canine welfare in commercial breeding: social, scientific and regulatory factors; *Candace Croney, PhD, Purdue University*
- 3:45-4:30 Dog imports, trafficking and implications for health and welfare: the case for addressing canine welfare in US commercial breeding kennels; *Naomi Kirby Sismour, DVM, MS, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); Dawn C. Fitzhugh, VMD, MPH, DACLAM, DACVPM, USDA, APHIS, Animal Care*
- 4:30-5:00 Raising the bar on responsibility in commercial breeding: a regulatory perspective from IN; *Bret Marsh, DVM, IN Board of Animal Health*
- 5:00-5:45 Getting creative on rehoming: old problems, new approaches, new challenges and lessons learned; *Martha Boden, SPCA Tampa Bay, Chris Fleming, Pinnacle Pet and All Dog's Dream*
- 5:45-6:00 Q and A all speakers
- 6:00-6:45 Networking reception & new Canine Care Certified breeder registration- **Sponsored by K9 Partners and Lovable Gold Star Puppies**
- 6:45-7:30 Awards and recognition program - Celebrating 10 years of partnerships and advancement in supporting welfare of dogs in commercial breeding
- Acknowledgements; *Candace Croney, PhD, Purdue University*  
Sponsors & special guests in attendance  
Certified Breeder Recognition  
Special thanks
- In memorium; *remarks by IN Senator Blake Doriot*
- Craig E. Curry Vision Award; *presented by Amy Curry*
- Community Building Award
- Outstanding Outreach Award
- Outstanding Care Award; **made available through support from Pinnacle Pet, Lovable Gold Star Puppies, and Dr. Denise Katz**
- 7:30-10:00 Networking

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## AGENDA - DAY 2

- 7:30-8:30 Breakfast; **sponsored by AKC and Purina Pro Plan**
- 8:30-8:45 WELCOME and acknowledgements; *Candace Croney, PhD, Purdue University*
- 8:45-9:00 Advancing canine health and welfare in US commercial breeding; *Bret Marsh, DVM, IN Board of Animal Health*
- 9:00-9:50 Why is pre-breeding health screening for dogs important? What every breeder and veterinarian should know; *Katie Hornberger DVM, DACT Janssen Veterinary Clinic - Repro Center; sponsored by ICAW*
- 9:50-10:30 BREAK & NETWORKING
- 10:30-11:30 Genetic screening 1; what should you test for and why does it matter? *Jenna Dockweiler, MS, DVM, DACT, CCRT, CVAT, Embark*  
Genetic screening 2: how to incorporate test results into breeding decisions (including matching of dogs) and educate customers about them; *Jenna Dockweiler, MS, DVM, DACT, CCRT, CVAT, Embark*
- 11:30-1:00 LUNCH & NETWORKING; **sponsored by Embark and Pinnacle Pet**
- 1:00-1:10 Future-proofing for sustainable, ethical dog supply: adapting to new data and changing social dynamics; *Candace Croney, PhD, Purdue University*
- 1:10-1:20 What is the data on rehoming of dogs from commercial kennels telling us? *Judi Stella, PhD, Purdue University*
- 1:20-1:30 Challenges and opportunities in rehoming dogs from commercial kennels: a veterinary perspective; *Denise Katz, DVM, The Love Pet Project*
- 1:30- 2:00 Barking up the right tree: putting your behavioral wellness plan to work to help get dogs in homes and keep them there; *Traci Shreyer, M.A*
- 2:00-2:45 Adapting responsibly to changing market conditions: management, breeding decisions, rehoming and business strategies that support canine welfare; *John Troyer, Family Affair Puppies; Denise Katz, DVM, The Love Pet Project, Nathan Wagler, Lovable Gold Star Puppies; sponsored by ICAW*
- 2:45-3:15 Panel discussion and Q & A
- 3:15-3:30 Wrap up and Close; *Candace Croney, PhD, Purdue University*

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## FORUM SPONSORS

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I.C.A.W.  
Indiana Council for  
Animal Welfare

