

The Positive Impact of Robotic Companion Pets

A Presentation to **ADVANCING STATES** 



Ted Fischer
CEO & Co-Founder
Moderator



Greg Olsen
Director, NYSOFA
Panelist



Richard Prudom
Secretary,
FL Dept of Elder Affairs
Panelist



Jean Brown
Commissioner,
AL Dept. of Senior Services
Panelist





Ageless Innovation



Joy for All



Ted Fischer, CEO and Co-Founder



OUR PURPOSE:

To reimagine how we positively live and age together by unleashing the Power of Play.

OUR COMPANY:



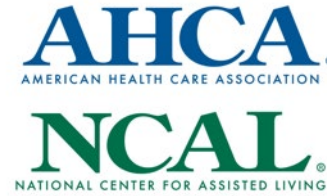
- Ageless Innovation is a global company focused 100% on older adults and families.
- Our award-winning line of Joy for All Companion Pets, promote fun, joy and play while reducing the cost of care and creating meaningful connections for older adults, their families, and caregivers.
- Our passionate team believes that play is a basic human need and an overlooked weapon in the battle against social isolation, loneliness and all forms of ADRD for older adults

STUDIES: KEY FINDINGS



	Researcher	Setting	Primary Findings
	AARP/UnitedHealthcare	Home	Reduced loneliness and improved well-being (i.e. purpose, resilience)
	University of Albany/Albany Medical Center	Hospital/ICU	Addressed ADRD-related behavioral issues (i.e. delirium)
	Wrexham Glyndwr University, UK	Home	Addressed ADRD-related behavioral issues and increased social interaction
	Pace University/Jamaica Hospital Medical Center	Hospital	Reduced delirium, improved mood, reduced loneliness
	Alacare Home Health & Hospice	Home (hospice)	Reduced agitation, reduced depression, reduced loneliness in those with ADRD
	VA/Sierra Nevada Health Care System	Community Living Center	Reduced ADRD-related behavioral issues and improved mood
	James Madison University/ Bridgewater Retirement Community	Long Term Care	Reduced ADRD-related behavioral issues, reduced loneliness, and reduced caregiver burden
	The Association of Relatives of Alzheimer Patients. (AFEDAZ), Spain	Centers	Reduced ADRD-related behavioral issues, reduced loneliness, and increased social interaction
	Florida Atlantic University, College of Nursing	Adult Day Care	Improved mood and decreased depression
	University of Plymouth, UK	Assisted Living Facility	Improved wellbeing, reduced anxiety and agitation

HEALTHCARE



- **Long-Term Care (LTC)**

- Beginning in 2016, we began piloting and distributing Joy for All Companion Pets to nursing home, assisted living, and memory care communities.
- We continue to serve LTC populations—both domestically and globally—and see considerable growth in this area.

- **Medicare Advantage**

- Approved as a Special Supplemental Benefit for the Chronically Ill as of PY2020

- **Medicaid**

- We have recently engaged multiple states and Medicaid Managed Care Organizations in serving select Medicaid populations (e.g., LTSS, disabled)

- **State Units on Aging (SUAs) and Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)**

- Expanded relationships to make positive impact during COVID-19

JOY FOR ALL COMPANION PET CAT



Cat-like Movements and Sounds

Inspired by real cats, the Companion Cat moves, nuzzles, meows, and rolls over for tummy rubs.

Real-Feel Fur

Petting the soft, lifelike fur provides for pleasing, tactile interactions.



VIBRAPURR Technology

When you pet and interact with your lovable Cat companion, feel the soothing purrr of feline happiness.



JOY FOR ALL COMPANION PET PUP



Real-Feel Heartbeat and Coat

Pet the soft, lifelike fur coat and feel Golden Pup's calming heartbeat.

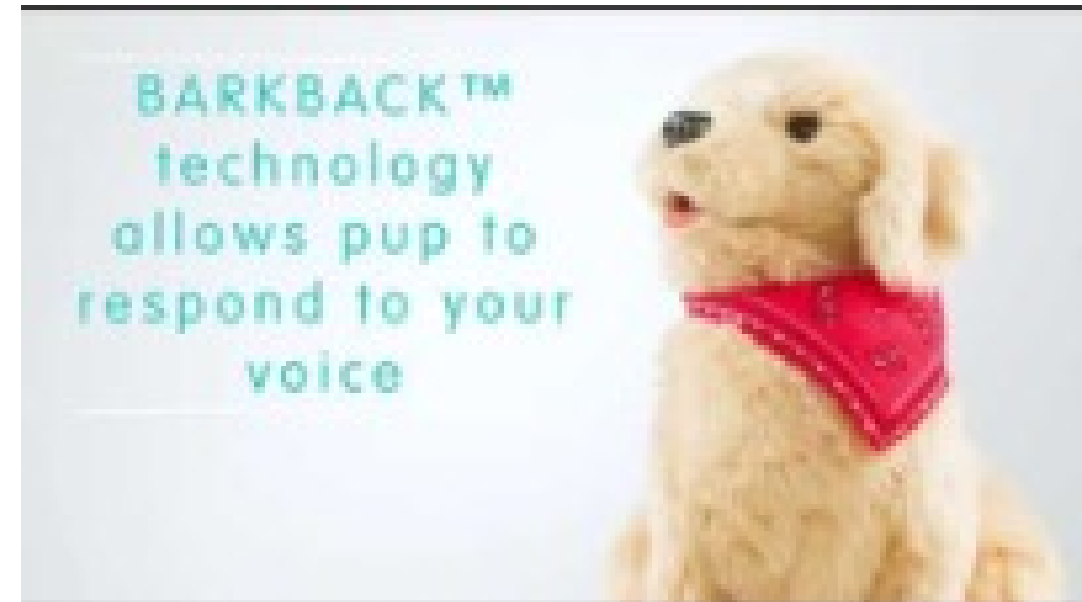
Responsive Head & Tail Movements

With built-in sensors, Golden Pup responds to your motion, voice and touch.



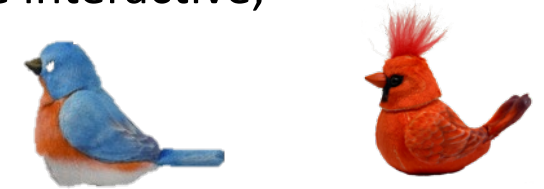
BARKBACK Technology

When you talk to your lovable companion, Golden Pup barks back.



Sneak Peak: Joy for All Walker Squawker

The Walker Squawkers are cheery, interactive birds that perch on your walker. These clever companions sing and play, keeping you company as you go about your day. Not only do they attractively accessorize your walker, but the Walker Squawkers are designed to be interactive, encourage movement, and playfully remind you to ‘use your walker’.



Encourages movement by making walking more fun!

- Look, move, and sound like real birds
- Respond to you and their environment
- Artfully crafted fabric exterior, lifelike movements, and accurate calls
- Performance mode – sings for you on command
- Responds to your whistling with ChirpBack™ technology
- Encourages mobility – the more you move, the more songs are unlocked
- “Don’t forget meee” - Playfully reminds you to come back to your walker

Grandmother aged 93 invents robotic bird to encourage older people to stay active

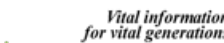
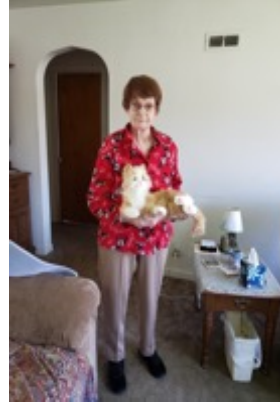
EXCLUSIVE

Rita Melone, 93, had a brainwave to create a gadget to encourage fellow older people to remember to use their assistive walkers, which is now going on sale globally in the autumn



Rita with the bluebird Walker Squawker (Photo: Michelle Carpenter/Ageless Innovation)

STATE UNITS ON AGING AND AAA PARTNERSHIPS





Office for the Aging



Greg Olsen

Director

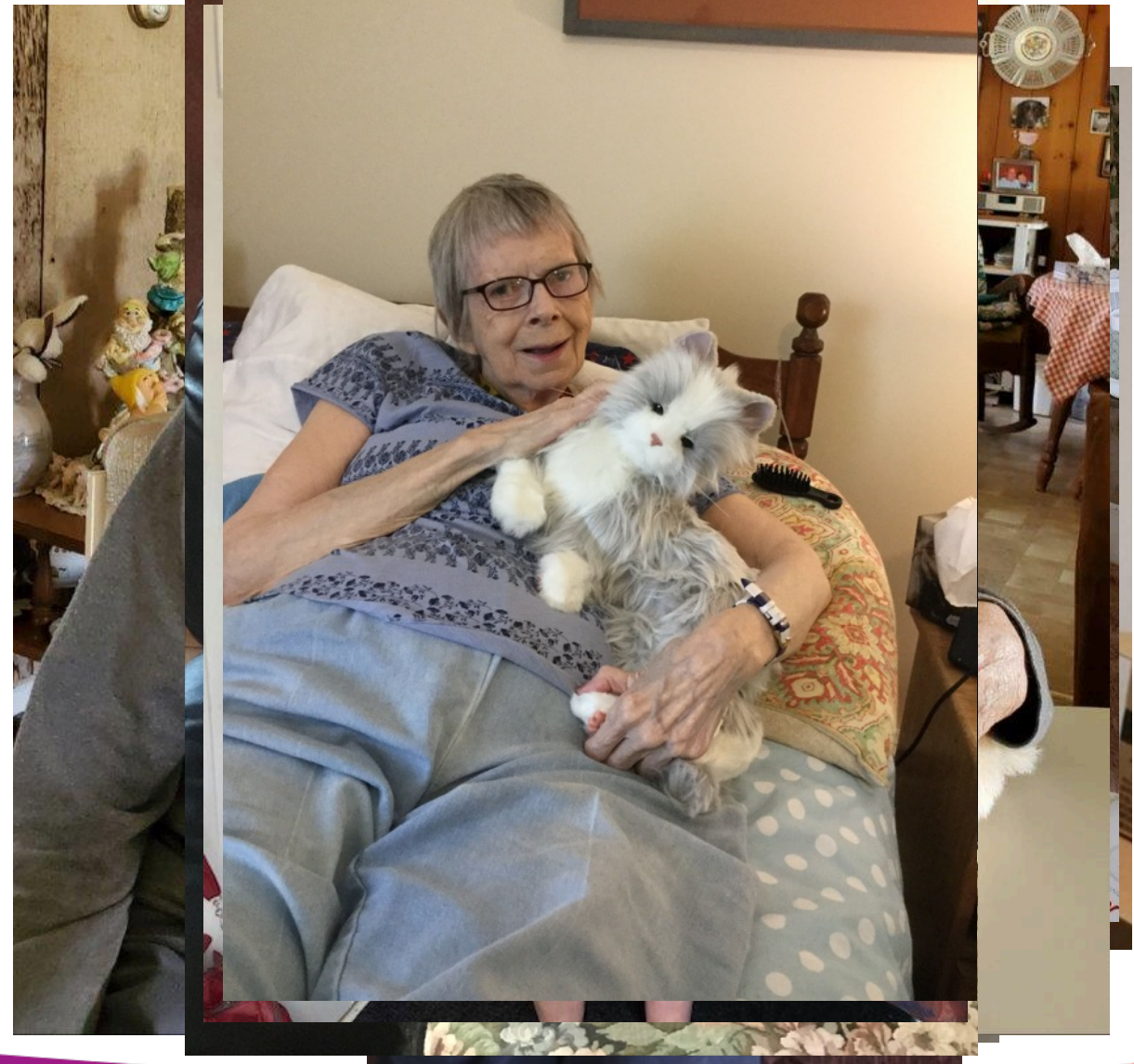
NY State Office for the Aging

NEW YORK STATE OFFICE FOR AGING: PET PROGRAM

2018 Study released – AARP PPI

Social isolation—lack of meaningful contacts with others—costs the Medicare program **\$6.7 billion** in additional spending every year.

- Isolation is a clear risk factor for illness and death
- Spending comparable to Arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes
- Similar to smoking 15 cigarettes daily



2018 PILOT PROJECT TO COMBAT ISOLATION

- Idea – Anya Olsen
- Pilot
 - 60 participants – 12 counties
 - DeJong Loneliness Scale – pre-adoption and 3,6,12 months
 - Reduced or significant reduction in loneliness among 70% of participants
 - 75% decrease in pain after one year
- COVID-19
 - Distributed over 3,500 pets through New York State's Aging Network
 - Worked with FQHC, office of mental health, veterans agency to increase access outside of state unit on aging
 - Available to anyone

TRADITIONAL NYSOFA CUSTOMER

- 82 year old
- Female
- Lives alone
- Low income
- High number of functional limitations – ADL, IADL
 - Bathing, dressing, personal hygiene, mobility, transfer, toileting, eating, housekeeping, shopping, laundry. Transportation, preparing meals, handle personal business, use telephone, self-administer medications

FUNDING AND OPPORTUNITIES

- OAA – address isolation, depression
- SUA and AAA's have existing flexibility in spending under Title IIIB
- Federal disaster declaration allows flexibility in all federal funds to meet needs during pandemic
- Stimulus Funds
- State flexibility – NY – Executive Order
- State funds provide flexibility – CSE
- AAA's – existing flexibility - overmatch

AMERICAN RECOVERY PLAN

- **\$460,000,000** shall be available to carry out part B of title III of such Act, including for— (A) supportive services of the types made available for fiscal year 2020; (B) efforts related to COVID–19 vaccination outreach, including education, communication, transportation, and other activities to facilitate vaccination of older individuals; and **(C) prevention and mitigation activities related to COVID–19 focused on addressing extended social isolation among older individuals, including activities for investments in technological equipment and solutions or other strategies aimed at alleviating negative health effects of social isolation due to long-term stay-at-home recommendations for older individuals for the duration of the COVID– 19 public health emergency.**

NYS ANIMATRONIC PET AWARD

NYSOFA received a statewide award and recognition, voted on by our peers, by NYSTEC for Population Health Innovation Summit session on Targeting the Effects of Social Isolation



Richard Prudom

Secretary,
FL Dept of Elder Affairs

Nearly 8,000 Therapeutic Pets Delivered Across Florida





May 18, 2020
Dear Friends,
Thank you so much for the robotic
pet you sent me. I just received him
this weekend & he is absolutely wonderful.
I talk to him all the time & I never
know what his responses will be. I
named him Corona V. Not too
but appropriate for the time
brightens my day.
Thank you again.
Tammy



Testimonials Arrived Regularly
from Individuals, Caregivers, and
Organizations.



Testimonial from Naples Senior Center

Our client, Sylvia, is 105 years old. Since she received the cat, they have been inseparable. Sylvia has dementia and up until recently was participating in the Naples Senior Center Dementia Respite Support Groups twice a week.

State and National Media Coverage:



Miami Herald
Fox 13 News
CNN
ABC Action news Jax
New York Post
McKnights
Gainesville Sun
Community Hospice
Florida Atlantic University

News Herald
WINK News SW
WKRG News 5
Suncoast WWSB
CBS 4
The New Yorker
WFLA Tampa
US News
USA Today



Jean Brown

Commissioner
Alabama Dept. of Senior Services



About ADSS

The Alabama Department of Senior Services (ADSS) is a cabinet level state agency that administers programs for senior citizens, people with disabilities, and caregivers. Governor Kay Ivey appointed Jean Brown to serve as the Commissioner of the Department of Senior Services on April 15, 2019.

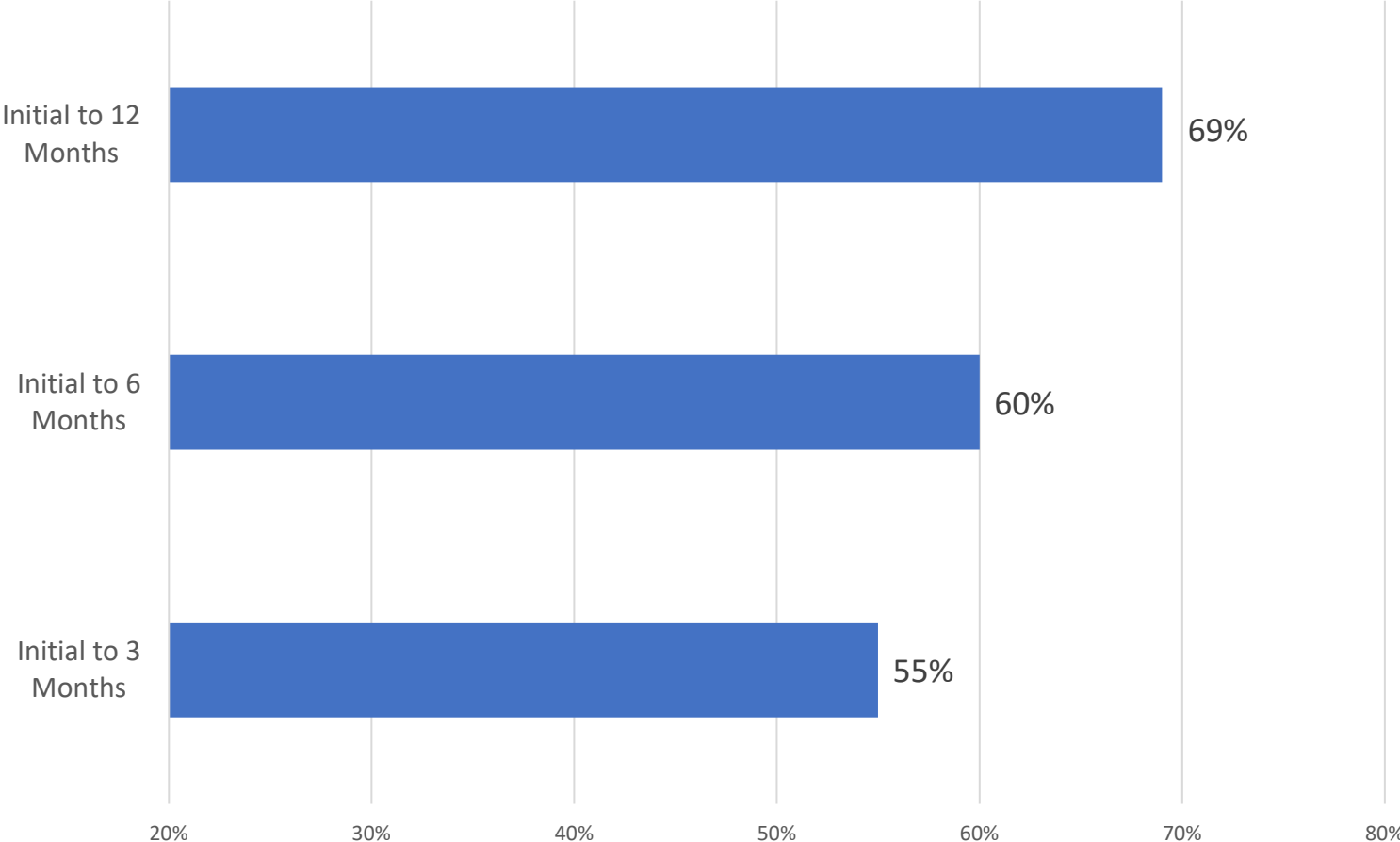
ADSS Robotic Pet Program

- Initial Purchase: 130 pets purchased (10 pets per 13 AAAs) with No Wrong Door COVID-19 grant (awarded May-June 2020).
- Additional Purchase: 81 pets purchased by AAAs with CARES Act discretionary funds.
- Eligibility: Older Adult 60+ and/or living with Alzheimer's or other form of dementia.



LONELINESS SURVEY RESULTS

Individuals Reporting Decreased Feelings of Loneliness and Isolation



- Total Participants – 211 Seniors
- Initial to 3 Months – 55%
- Initial to 6 Months – 60%
- Initial to 12 Months – 69%

News Coverage

Statewide

- AL.com
- CBS 42
- Fox 52
- WSFA 12
- WVTM 13
- WMTW 8
- WAFF 48
- WBRC 6

Nationwide

- CNN
- MSN
- News Nation
- WKRN (TN)
- WVLT (TN)
- WDJT (WI)
- WYFF (SC)
- News 8 (ID)



Life-like robotic pets help Alabama seniors during coronavirus pandemic

Updated Aug 13, 2020. Posted Aug 13, 2020



The Alabama Department of Senior Services is looking to put life-like robotic pets in the hands of senior citizens who may be feeling isolated during the

Alabama combats isolated seniors' loneliness with robotic pets



The Lee-Russell Area Agency of Aging is helping clients with dementia during the pandemic with robotic pets

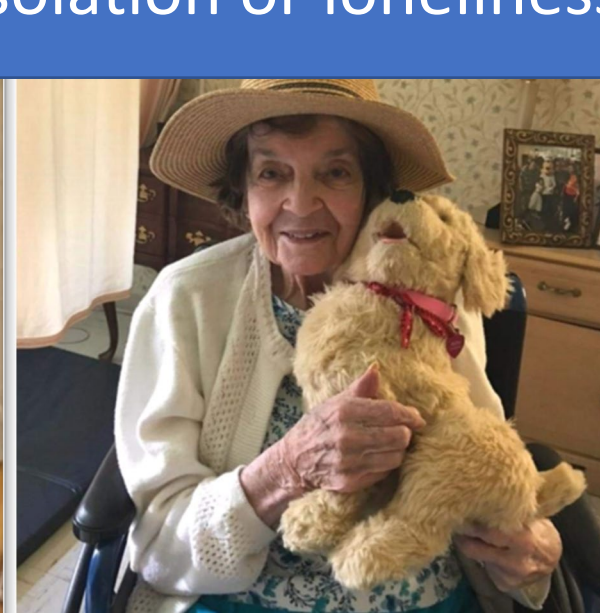


Robotic pets used to remedy loneliness in nursing homes across Alabama





We would love to find a meaningful way to serve your most vulnerable constituents; individuals with dementia and those suffering from social isolation or loneliness.





Joy for All™
COMPANION PETS

Interested in learning more?

Email Tom Canterino

tom@agelessinnovation.com