The Positive Impact of Robotic Companion Pets

A Presentation to

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
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

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

VIBRAPURRR 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.
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
State Units on Aging and AAA Partnerships
Greg Olsen
Director
NY State Office for the Aging
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
$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
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

- 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)
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.
Interested in learning more?

Email Tom Canterino
tom@agelessinnovation.com