



**Wisconsin Federated Humane Societies, Inc.
Badger State Conference**

Featuring

Rethinking the Cat

Presented by: The Humane Society of the United States

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM: Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM: Rethinking our Approach

Presenter: Katie Lisnik, Director, Cat Protection and Policy, The HSUS

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM: Choose Your Session

Community Cat Track: Collaboration – Working Together to Save More Cats

Explore effective ways to engage and share information with the public about community cats, including how to resolve community cat conflicts and the role that animal control officers, shelters and rescue groups play in this mission. Gone are the days of sitting back and waiting for the community to come to you. In order to really affect change, we need to be ambassadors in our towns and cities, and enlist the help of our fellow citizens. The HSUS Pets for Life program engages people “where they are” and assists owners, caretakers and other community members to help the animals in their care.

Presenter: Jill Kline, Education and Advocacy Manager, Wisconsin Humane Society; The HSUS Pets for Life Mentorship Community

Adoptable/Shelter Cat Track: Fast Tracking to Save Lives

Fast tracking can benefit all shelter animals and helps maximize your organization's life-saving capacity. Using time efficiently shrinks the daily in-shelter population even without reducing the number of animals served, allowing more resources (time, housing space and attention) to be available for each animal present. Trying to decrease your animals' length of stay? Looking to improve the flow of animals through your shelter system? Fast tracking is hands down the simplest thing you can do to get started. Learn how other shelters have started and implemented simple fast tracking procedures and successful shelter models for systematic programs that have created flow-through happiness.

Presenter: Sandra Newbury, DVM, Director, University of Wisconsin Shelter Medicine Program

11:00 AM – 11:15 AM: Break

11:15 AM – 12:45 PM: Choose Your Session

Community Cat Track: Persuading Municipal Officials to Go with TNR

The support of local government officials can be critical to advancing TNR in your community, but in addition, you may need to persuade shelter directors, public health officials, animal control officers or elected leaders. Learn a practical framework for successfully advocating for TNR to these critical community partners including how to identify government interests and learn to understand them from their perspective. Also learn to present the alternatives available for managing cats in a way that demonstrates TNR is the best available approach, crucial tips on making your pitch, from data to professional dress, and how to respond to common questions and concerns.

Presenter: Katie Lisnik, Director, Cat Protection and Policy, The HSUS

Adoptable/Shelter Cat Track: Capacity for Care

Your capacity is not just the number of cages you have. Capacity is your ability to provide the kind of care that maximizes your ability to save lives. Learn how working within your capacity makes it possible for you to provide the kind of care you dream about. Whether trying to make estimates about staff hours needed, numbers of surgeries required, or the best fit number for adoption housing units, calculating capacity helps you plan and understand what's needed as well as what's possible.

Presenter: Sandra Newbury, DVM, Director, University of Wisconsin Shelter Medicine Program

12:45 PM – 1:45 PM Lunch



1:45 PM – 3:15 PM: Choose Your Session

Community Cat Track: Expanding the Impact – Community-Wide TNR

More and more shelters are closing their doors to community cats, feral and other un-owned cats, recognizing that shelters are not appropriate places for them, especially if their likely outcome is euthanasia. Many rescue groups, shelters, and individuals are involved in TNR programs, yet cat overpopulation and a lack of TNR persists. By reviewing successful programs, this session will explore the effectiveness of strategic and the development and implementation of community-wide TNR programs that work.

Presenter: Karen Little, CEO, Alley Cat Advocates

Adoptable/Shelter Cat Track: Adopters Welcome – A New Guide to Help Transform your Adoptions

Creative marketing, positive outreach, and initiatives like The Shelter Pet Project are driving more and more people to our shelters and rescues. So what happens when they get there? Learn to create the most positive experience for adopters, your staff and volunteers with effective policies and counseling strategies that will increase and improve your adoption success. A free copy of our *Adopters Welcome* guide will be given to each attendee.

Presenter: Suzanne D'Alonzo, Shelter Services Coordinator, The HSUS

3:15 PM – 3:30 PM: Break

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM: Choose Your Session

Community Cat Track: Making It Work in Your Community – Innovative Approaches

This panel discussion will delve deep into successful, boots-on-the ground TNR projects. Hear directly from organizations on the challenges and victories they have experienced and lessons learned. Bring your questions and ideas to share for feedback and brainstorming.

Presenters: Monica Hoff, Animal Control Officer, WI and Board Member, Cats Anonymous, Inc. of Green Bay; Mary Kirlin, Executive Director, Humane Society of Marathon County; Susan Krebsbach, DVM, Founder, Dane County Friends of Ferals

Adoptable/Shelter Cat Track: Looking Upstream – Keeping Cats in Homes

Cat behavior counseling is a proven resource that helps to keep cats in their homes and yet it is an underutilized resource in the sheltering world. By being proactive and providing cat owners in with cat behavior assistance, shelters and rescues will decrease their intake of cats. Hear directly from successful programs and learn how your organization can begin to create a cat behavior counseling resource to offer the community.

Presenters: Matt Wildman, Pet Care Issues Manager, The HSUS; Steph Renaud, Cat City Supervisor, Progressive Animal Welfare Society

5:00 PM – 5:15 PM: Closing Networking Session

The HSUS reserves the right, and at its sole discretion, to make any changes to the program. Every effort will be made to keep presentations and speakers as represented. However, unforeseen circumstances may result in the substitution of one or more presentation topic(s) or speaker(s).