

# **ADOPTION OPTIONS**

# Montreal, QC

Wednesday October 12, 2016

**HOLIDAY INN MONTREAL AIRPORT** 

6500 Cote De Liesse Montreal, QC H4T1E3

Join us! Petfinder Pro™
and Petco Foundation™
have brought together
some of the most popular
presentations and speakers
in animal welfare and
mixed them with plenty of
networking opportunities.
Did we mention it's FREE?
Register today at

# pro.petfinder.com/ adoptionoptions

Please register at least 10 days in advance.

THANK YOU TO OUR HOST, SPCA MONTREAL

Questions? We're here with answers! Just email us at adoptionoptions@petfinder.com.

9 am - 9:30 am

SIGN IN AND FUEL UP: COFFEE AND PASTRIES

9:30 am - 9:45 am

**WELCOME** 

One person from each organization should be prepared to introduce your group. Feel free to bring business cards, brochures, news and/or fundraising items.

## 9:45 am - 10:30 am GETTING THE MOST OUT OF PETFINDER

#### **MELISSA VECERA**

Melissa will review a few of the many benefits and resources that Petfinder Pro offers members. This presentation focuses on various tips and tricks to showcase your adoptable pets in the best light for increasing adoptions. Tips will include everything from taking and posting great pictures, crafting creative pet descriptions, and different ways of promoting pets online, as well as offline.

#### 10:30 am - 12:00 pm SHELTER MEDICINE 101

#### DR. KAREN DASHFIELD

This workshop will review some of the common challenges shelters and rescue groups face in preventing infectious diseases and keeping the animals in their care healthy. We'll focus on tips and tools that are critical to improving health and welfare, including optimal animal care practices, strategies to reduce disease transmission, health examinations, vaccination protocols and sanitation procedures. A summary of available resources for further information will be provided as well as some time for Q&A to cover those topics most important to you.

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

**VEGETARIAN LUNCH, NETWORKING TIME** 

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

OVERLOOKED PETS: TRACKING AND MARKETING THE LONG-TIMERS

## LINDA REIDER

Does your organization always seem to have the same type of pets sitting for longer than others? Are there dogs, cats or other animals that seem to stay... and stay? Luckily, there are ways to identify and move these great, yet sometimes overlooked pets, into adoptive homes. The first step is to know who they are; and the second, is to have a plan in place which focuses on their special attributes to find the right adopters! This presentation will cover both steps and allow for sharing of ideas from the audience too.

2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

**BREAK** 

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

TRAINING AND ENRICHMENT FOR SHELTER DOGS

#### **JENN BARG**

Animal welfare professionals have a responsibility to provide true quality of life for each dog in their program. This workshop covers the importance of achieving and maintaining quality of life for dogs in shelters. Sue will cover training, behavior modification programs, and mental, behavioral and emotional stimulation for dogs. She will explore some fun and easy ways to train adoptable dogs so they can put their best paw forward. Shelter dogs will be used for demonstration.

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm

**CLOSING REMARKS** 



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# Montreal Speakers

## **MELISSA VECERA**

**PETFINDER** 

Melissa is a shelter outreach specialist for Petfinder. She has 10 years of volunteer experience, including writing press releases and attending meet-and-greet events on behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Great Dane Rescue League, Inc., and hands-on shelter experience at the MD SPCA. Since 2012, in her role as manager of the North American Adoption Options conference series, she has traveled to over 60 different cities to bring the latest animal welfare knowledge to local communities. She calls Maryland home, and shares it with her Dachshund named Lily, her Hedgehog named Olive, and often a foster cat.

## KAREN DASHFIELD, DVM

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL POUND

Dr. Karen Dashfield is a shelter veterinarian with 25 years of experience designing disease control programs for shelters, kennels, and wildlife rehabilitators throughout New Jersey. She is the Supervising Veterinarian for the Jefferson Township Municipal Pound and through her Veterinary House call practice she provides consultation and animal care for numerous shelters and rescues including Friends of Ferals, Byram Animal Rescue and Kindness Squad, Shelter Showcase, and Liberty Humane Society. She has served as a Volunteer Medical Director for the Best Friends Animal Society NY Super Adoptions since 2010. Dr. Karen also works closely with the members of the New Jersey Association of Wildlife Rehabilitators and is the recipient of their 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award. As the Director of the Sussex County Animal Response Team (CART), she initiated and ran a shelter for Hurricane Katrina Dogs in 2005/2006 that received, re-homed, and reunited over 200 animals. She prepares future animal control officers, shelter workers, and wildlife rehabilitators through her teaching for Career Development Institute, and at local and regional conferences. Karen shares her home with her four dogs, Red, Delilah, Sadie and Pollywog, and a cat named Princess.

#### **LINDA REIDER**

BUCKS COUNTY SPCA

Linda Reider is the Executive Director of the Bucks County SPCA in Pennsylvania, an organization that operates two open admission, "no time limit" animal care centers, investigates animal cruelty county-wide, provides 24-hour emergency rescue, and reaches into the diverse communities of the county to improve the lives of animals and their people. Linda holds B.S. and M.S. degrees, plus a certificate in Nonprofit Business and Management, and has held various positions in the animal welfare field for the past 31 years. She lives in the woods with her two cats, her patient husband, the foxes and the bears.

### JENN BARG, MS, ACAAB, CDBC

DENVER ANIMAL SHELTER

Jenn Barg is the Behavior Coordinator for the Denver Animal Shelter. She holds a BS and MS in Biology and is an Associate Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist and Certified Dog Behavior Consultant. She has a diverse background in animal welfare that spans 14 years including serving as the Shelter Manager for Pueblo Animal Services in Pueblo, CO, Head of Behavior and Training for the Upper Valley Humane Society in New Hampshire, and also ran her own private behavior consultation business. Jenn is also currently a regular speaker for Petfinder's Adoption Options workshops nationwide. In her previous career she was a research scientist studying migratory bird behavioral ecology. Jenn served the New England Federation of Humane Societies board and is currently a board member of Colorado Federation of Animal Welfare Agencies.