WEBVTT

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00:00:35.370 --> 00:00:44.790

Nanette Relave: For participants who are just coming on to today's webinar please note that we will begin at 3pm Eastern time so we'll get started in just a few minutes.

2

00:00:58.620 --> 00:00:58.830

Oh.

3

00:01:00.060 --> 00:01:04.260

Jean Brown: I can't see my word document come back real quick, thank you.

4

00:02:58.350 --> 00:03:03.840

Nanette Relave: We are just at the top of the hour, so i'm very happy to get the webinars started.

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00:03:05.550 --> 00:03:12.900

Nanette Relave: So it's tough to show off my lovely cat who's joining me and she's been with me all day keeps me company at the office.

6

00:03:13.770 --> 00:03:23.490

Nanette Relave: So welcome my name is natural law and i'm with advancing states information and referral support Center on behalf of advancing steeds.

7

00:03:23.940 --> 00:03:32.760

Nanette Relave: I would like to welcome participants to today's webinar on the positive impact of robotic companion pets, thank you for joining us.

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00:03:33.450 --> 00:03:43.080

Nanette Relave: Let me cover a few housekeeping items before turning it over to our moderator Ted Fisher CEO and co founder of each list innovation.

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00:03:44.010 --> 00:04:02.430

Nanette Relave: The slides audio recording and transcript from today's webinar will be posted to the advancing state's website within the next several days, please visit our webpage on publications and webinars and won't be sure to post the Web link in the chat box, for your reference.

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00:04:03.450 --> 00:04:12.690

Nanette Relave: All participants are unmuted during the webinar to reduce background noise but we welcome your questions, through the Q amp a function available on your lower toolbar.

11

00:04:13.800 --> 00:04:20.640

Nanette Relave: please feel free to submit your questions at any time during today's webinar to be addressed during the QA.

12

00:04:21.780 --> 00:04:33.780

Nanette Relave: You are welcome to use the chat function to share information and ideas with other participants be sure to select all participants and attendees or it might show, as everyone.

13

00:04:34.920 --> 00:04:51.120

Nanette Relave: For captioning you can use the live transcript option in the lower toolbar to turn captioning on and off by showing or hiding the subtitles or you might need to click on more with a three little dots and again you're able to show or hide the subtitles.

14

00:04:53.190 --> 00:05:10.260

Nanette Relave: As you might be familiar with the zoom webinar offers different viewing options, so if you are in full screen any chat comments will appear as a pop up and you can open and close those if you exit full screen, you can have the chat open on the right of your screen.

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00:05:11.370 --> 00:05:26.280

Nanette Relave: So we can work glad you're joining us today to learn about robotic companion pets that panel of state leaders an ageless innovation tab will introduce the panel and open today's presentation so Ted, the floor is yours.

16

00:05:27.240 --> 00:05:36.060

Ted Fischer: Thank you so much, the net and, like to thank advancing stage for for having us today, and especially my my esteemed panel here.

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00:05:36.960 --> 00:05:51.900

Ted Fischer: Of great partners but, more importantly, good friends with Greg olson the director of the New York state office for the aging, we have Richard predominant Secretary of Florida department of elder affairs, and we have gene brown Commissioner Alabama department of senior services.

18

00:05:53.400 --> 00:06:07.710

Ted Fischer: i've had the great pleasure of working with with all three of you over the last year and a half, and I just want to just start with a special thank you to you and all of your colleagues and counterparts that are on this call today.

19

00:06:08.820 --> 00:06:22.500

Ted Fischer: The incredible work innovation compassion and intensity of the last year and a half, has really shown all of us how important this topic is and for the great work that you've all done.

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00:06:22.920 --> 00:06:27.480

Ted Fischer: Over the past year I couldn't be more proud to be a small part of.

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00:06:27.960 --> 00:06:34.920

Ted Fischer: Some of the success stories i've heard and the impact that you've had not just with this program but with the many programs that you've all administrative over the past.

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00:06:35.250 --> 00:06:43.710

Ted Fischer: year and a half it's been unprecedented times and it takes great leaders like all of you to make this happen and we're honored to be part of that so so thank you.

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00:06:44.580 --> 00:07:00.270

Ted Fischer: Just housekeeping i'm going to start off, just a quick overview of ageless innovation and then i'm going to do a little of the talking and turn it over to the folks who we all really want to hear from the leaders that are making this happen, so if you advance the slide.

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00:07:07.470 --> 00:07:08.370

Nanette Relave: just give me a moment.

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00:07:08.430 --> 00:07:09.660

Nanette Relave: To give us.

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00:07:14.550 --> 00:07:19.830

Ted Fischer: We just keep on that slide is such good looking team folks that you can go one more slide thanks.

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00:07:22.140 --> 00:07:30.540

Ted Fischer: Great so i'm going to start where I always start with our company purpose, which is to reimagine how we positively live in age together by unleashing the power of play.

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00:07:31.920 --> 00:07:38.880

Ted Fischer: As I think the panel will will certainly talk about today we've launched a line of companion pat's about six years ago.

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00:07:39.450 --> 00:07:48.450

Ted Fischer: To bring joy and fun and play the older adults in their families and the last year and a half, has really shown how important it is to have that interactive companionship.

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00:07:48.870 --> 00:07:58.470

Ted Fischer: That joy that fun and laughter in a time where we put protective measures in place to protect our older adults but in those protective measure we further isolated and.

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00:07:59.010 --> 00:08:08.940

Ted Fischer: kept them from their families and their caregivers and their loved ones in their peers, so we are super excited our company focuses 100% on the older adult population and their families.

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00:08:10.020 --> 00:08:15.030

Ted Fischer: We as a team believe passionately that play is a basic human need.

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00:08:15.930 --> 00:08:25.200

Ted Fischer: We work our whole lives to get to the point where we can play and enjoy and have fun more and as a society and culture we we tell people they're too old for that we.

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00:08:25.710 --> 00:08:34.140

Ted Fischer: We couldn't disagree more, and I think what you'll hear today will validate the fact that we certainly are onto something next slide please.

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00:08:35.970 --> 00:08:45.150

Ted Fischer: As we you know enter this unprecedented time we've all many of us in this space have known about the epidemic of loneliness and isolation prior to the pandemic.

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00:08:45.540 --> 00:08:54.600

Ted Fischer: Again, as I said earlier, it's been magnified by those protective measures and the end result of the pandemic and, as I started to work with state leaders.

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00:08:55.410 --> 00:09:03.510

Ted Fischer: To folks on this call, one of the things I think was most helpful as we started to think about our partnership and how we might move photos the fact that.

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00:09:03.750 --> 00:09:10.860

Ted Fischer: It was an existing body of evidence, then already validated the impact that our products are had on those lonely or isolated folks.

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00:09:11.730 --> 00:09:16.680

Ted Fischer: I won't go through all of these, but this is a handful of the of the studies that have been done.

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00:09:17.010 --> 00:09:21.990

Ted Fischer: I would say the largest and most important of which is the aarp united healthcare study, which was focused on.

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00:09:22.260 --> 00:09:37.680

Ted Fischer: lonely isolated older adults, that really prove that folks who had interact with their parents had reduced loneliness improve well being a sense of purpose and more resiliency things that were all really critically important during this time next slide please.

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00:09:41.040 --> 00:09:51.450

Ted Fischer: In our healthcare side of our business, this is a won't go through the every bullet, but really we've we started our healthcare journey with long term care facilities and communities and folks.

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00:09:52.080 --> 00:10:01.770

Ted Fischer: That we could work with that we're dealing with whether it was skilled nursing or assisted living memory care, etc, and we started to expand into those areas.

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00:10:02.520 --> 00:10:10.560

Ted Fischer: We increased our healthcare space in the medicare and medicaid space we're working in many states with folks in those two areas and.

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00:10:11.400 --> 00:10:19.860

Ted Fischer: Really, since the beginning of code, but really April of 2020 began a journey with a number of partners, including the folks on this panel.

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00:10:20.340 --> 00:10:31.410

Ted Fischer: Both in the state units on aging and area agencies, and we continue to work closely with those folks through the pandemic and our plans at work closely with you, after the pandemic as well next slide please.

47

00:10:34.170 --> 00:10:44.130

Ted Fischer: So, for some of you on the on the call you may or may not have seen our products before So these are quick little videos that you can click on and then see if we can get that to play.

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00:10:45.750 --> 00:10:48.990

Ted Fischer: And just give you a sense really what we.

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00:10:50.490 --> 00:10:52.740

Ted Fischer: We tried to do is have a.

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00:10:54.120 --> 00:11:00.300

Ted Fischer: Life like as much as possible realism was very important to the older adults who helped us design these products.

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00:11:01.140 --> 00:11:18.990

Ted Fischer: i'm not sure you can hear the audio on the on the camera right now but there's multiple sounds person meows and features that are very cat like something that we we heard from older adults was really important that the realism mattered next slide.

52

00:11:24.510 --> 00:11:28.350

Ted Fischer: So that's our pop and we can try and roll that video as well.

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00:11:29.820 --> 00:11:40.980

Ted Fischer: But we have you know some of the features in the POP are subtle heartbeat wade's calming down and it responds to sound moves it's headed in the direction with barks and.

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00:11:41.790 --> 00:11:44.700

Ted Fischer: You know, some some nice snuggles and those type of things and.

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00:11:45.450 --> 00:11:54.570

Ted Fischer: We have this bark back technology, where you speak to the park, but it sort of barks back and puppy barks at about the same length that you, you were talking to it so.

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00:11:55.170 --> 00:12:01.230

Ted Fischer: Trying to provide that give and take relationship that was so important to the success of this product is that.

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00:12:02.010 --> 00:12:14.280

Ted Fischer: There are a lot of inanimate used out there in the marketplace, whether it's a memory care and other areas we really wanted this to be a given take where folks would getting something and giving something and creating that bond and that relationship with our next slide please.

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00:12:16.170 --> 00:12:18.810

Ted Fischer: And we give you a sneak peek here at.

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00:12:19.950 --> 00:12:31.140

Ted Fischer: Our newest product that we just announced it's called the Walker squawker and, as you can see in the picture on the right, this was actually invented by a 93 year old entrepreneur named Rita.

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00:12:31.950 --> 00:12:41.700

Ted Fischer: Rita has become a beloved part of our team, but for 90 years read it didn't need a Walker and for the last few she has and she often lamented that.

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00:12:42.240 --> 00:12:48.960

Ted Fischer: 90 years of history, you know, was not the Walker so she often forgets the Walker and she thought that.

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00:12:49.500 --> 00:13:01.650

Ted Fischer: There should be a little you know and thought a pleasant bird that maybe set on the Walker and helped engage her in a way that she didn't forget it, that she was more accepting that it was more fun and joyful and playful and so.

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00:13:02.400 --> 00:13:11.040

Ted Fischer: read it came to us and we could not be more honored to help bring this product to life we think it's going to launch and wait Q4 early q1 of next year and.

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00:13:11.820 --> 00:13:23.490

Ted Fischer: You know, we hope it brings joy and fun and play to those folks using assistive walking devices and helps them engaged in a way that improves their their well being next slide please.

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00:13:26.730 --> 00:13:34.740

Ted Fischer: So this is my last slide and it really is just a testament to all of you who are viewing today, this is an eye test and I won't go through it, but.

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00:13:35.400 --> 00:13:47.130

Ted Fischer: A year and a half ago, you know we were working in a small way with the with a few state agencies were working in a small way with triple a's and since the pandemic and our pioneers who are on this panel.

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00:13:47.760 --> 00:13:58.890

Ted Fischer: Really, adopted the pet program we've expanded out and working in over 25 states and with dozens and dozens of triple a's and it's just a big thank you from all of us for letting us be part of.

68

00:13:59.250 --> 00:14:08.610

Ted Fischer: A program that's having impact with your older adults and we look forward to continuing to innovate and work with you and with that I want to turn it over to my friend Greg olson.

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00:14:11.010 --> 00:14:13.080

Greg Olsen: Wonderful thanks Ted can you guys hear me okay.

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00:14:15.240 --> 00:14:22.440

Greg Olsen: Perfect well first, before I dive in I just want to thank the Net and everybody at advancing states for inviting us to be here today.

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00:14:22.920 --> 00:14:34.680

Greg Olsen: i'm really honored to be on a panel, with some of my favorite people across the country Ted Jim and Tom from angels innovation, an amazing team, and then, my friends, Richard and gene from Florida and Alabama.

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00:14:35.760 --> 00:14:50.310

Greg Olsen: respectively and you'll hear more from them later they've just been amazing partners in this endeavor if you could go to the next slide that would be great you know I want to start out before I begin, not on that I don't look like that anymore, but more on the direct.

73

00:14:51.540 --> 00:15:00.420

Greg Olsen: issue that sometimes things are as simple as they appear and you don't have to overcomplicate them and you don't have to overthink them.

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00:15:00.810 --> 00:15:10.020

Greg Olsen: What do we know about people and i'm not talking about older people i'm talking about people in general, what makes us tick in our private lives and there's three real big buckets of areas, you can go to.

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00:15:10.500 --> 00:15:18.180

Greg Olsen: it's music it's our arts and culture and it's pets so when we started to engage in this project and i'll give you a little bit of history.

76

00:15:18.510 --> 00:15:29.850

Greg Olsen: These are the things that make us take as human beings, and so i'm not surprised by the data that came out of New York state when we tested this i'm not surprised that the laundry list of metrics that came out.

77

00:15:30.240 --> 00:15:42.360

Greg Olsen: i'm not surprised that what we get to hear today from Richard and gene in terms of their response as well, sometimes you just don't need to overthink what's in front of your face next slide please.

78

00:15:43.710 --> 00:15:53.520

Greg Olsen: So in our state, like many other states, you know, combating social isolation is something embedded in our network going back 50 years there's a variety of different ways to have done that.

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00:15:53.880 --> 00:16:04.350

Greg Olsen: Whether it be direct phone calls are volunteers and other staff visiting or identifying individuals trying to connect them to senior centers other Community outlets, those are things that we've always done.

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00:16:05.640 --> 00:16:10.650

Greg Olsen: You know I don't want to get into the pandemic yet, because it was really prior to the pandemic that.

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00:16:11.070 --> 00:16:23.100

Greg Olsen: This really raised its elevation to me personally, and that was the study that came out by aarp and some others at the national level, which really put some metrics like and cms.

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00:16:23.430 --> 00:16:32.460

Greg Olsen: put some metrics behind what the actual impact is on isolation in terms of the individual and health care costs and, as you can see from this slide.

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00:16:33.390 --> 00:16:42.180

Greg Olsen: Extensive data from coding and spending was able to be aggregated on the impact of social isolation.

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00:16:42.630 --> 00:16:51.150

Greg Olsen: Specifically, and then depression related social isolation among older adults and that it costs medicare almost 7 billion extra dollars a year.

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00:16:51.720 --> 00:17:02.310

Greg Olsen: We know that it's a clear risk factor for illness and death it's comparable to some of the highest cost treatments like arthritis high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes.

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00:17:02.640 --> 00:17:12.000

Greg Olsen: not surprising that many of the clients that are in our core book of business have all of those types of chronic conditions and it's equivalent to almost smoking a pack a day.

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00:17:12.420 --> 00:17:19.710

Greg Olsen: So you know, seeing that data versus having a conversation about isolation and how to combat it in my mind anyway.

88

00:17:20.280 --> 00:17:34.230

Greg Olsen: really made me think differently about, we need to do something different, more extensive to see what we can do to alleviate this within the power of our offices and and the partnerships that connections that we have next slide please.

89

00:17:35.610 --> 00:17:44.250

Greg Olsen: So I could never have a conversation like this next please yeah some quality photos from New York.

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00:17:47.070 --> 00:17:57.600

Greg Olsen: Without mentioning my daughter, who is nine years old, this is when the cms therapy data came out and why do I talk about my daughter on yeah well.

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00:17:58.260 --> 00:18:07.680

Greg Olsen: It was early August I came home from work, one day, and she came running up to me and said dad dad I was on Amazon, and I bought this amazing new cat.

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00:18:08.070 --> 00:18:11.550

Greg Olsen: I hope it comes in the next week or two before we go on vacation.

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00:18:11.970 --> 00:18:24.660

Greg Olsen: And I said oh my God honey that's so great, I can't wait to see it, but in my mind, I was thinking great here's another stuffed animal to go into the basket of unused stuffed animals that are in bags down in the basement.

94

00:18:25.380 --> 00:18:39.840

Greg Olsen: so fast forward about a week or so and I come home from work and there is the pet it's a cat and I immediately, and this is no lie, I immediately said to her holy cow, this would be an amazing.

95

00:18:40.620 --> 00:18:53.100

Greg Olsen: tool to try to combat isolation, with our Community based older adults within our network, so I looked up the tag on line and realize that Ted was a couple years.

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00:18:53.490 --> 00:19:01.200

Greg Olsen: You know, ahead of the game and that's exactly what they were designed for so we decided I reached out to my 59 county office for the aging.

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00:19:01.860 --> 00:19:09.210

Greg Olsen: I looked for for a variety of not complicated easy to implement tools.

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00:19:09.630 --> 00:19:19.620

Greg Olsen: To measure isolation, I focused on the design loneliness tool which is six questions three that measure emotional isolation three that measure social isolation.

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00:19:20.070 --> 00:19:26.160

Greg Olsen: We got 12 volunteer counties that were interested in this pilot we bought 30 cats 30 dogs.

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00:19:26.490 --> 00:19:34.440

Greg Olsen: I asked the case managers who I trust immensely and state certified and I started my career actually as a case manager in New York in the early 90s.

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00:19:35.010 --> 00:19:45.540

Greg Olsen: That I wanted you to assess somebody prior to adoption at three six and 12 months and let's see what happens now anecdotally I already knew what was going to happen.

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00:19:45.840 --> 00:19:51.180

Greg Olsen: But the data came back exactly as I expected, and that is that, after one year.

103

00:19:51.750 --> 00:20:04.350

Greg Olsen: Over 70% of the individuals who are assessed over that period of time had a reduction or a significant reduction in isolation, one of my counties was smart enough to implement it pain scale.

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00:20:04.920 --> 00:20:15.480

Greg Olsen: Along with the isolation scale and 75% of their clients went from a nine to 10 on a pain scale down to a one or two that's all I needed.

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00:20:15.960 --> 00:20:20.370

Greg Olsen: To really back up what I already knew was to be true, but we had some metrics behind it.

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00:20:20.880 --> 00:20:27.630

Greg Olsen: So when we started to get into the pandemic and it was a little prior to we bought about 1200 of these.

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00:20:28.080 --> 00:20:37.530

Greg Olsen: And then, as the pandemic began, we continue to to purchase them and build partnerships, so it wasn't just something we were subsidize it was an opportunity for.

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00:20:37.860 --> 00:20:43.410

Greg Olsen: The office of mental health federally qualified health centers other not for profits or the general public.

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00:20:43.740 --> 00:20:49.230

Greg Olsen: in getting you know negotiating a discount codes and anybody in New York state could really buy one of these.

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00:20:49.560 --> 00:20:58.860

Greg Olsen: But we really wanted to to help target these to our customers and so at this point, literally we just got our shipment yesterday and today for.

111

00:20:59.280 --> 00:21:02.310

Greg Olsen: another couple thousand pets that are going out the door.

112

00:21:03.180 --> 00:21:18.210

Greg Olsen: there's been a lot of embracing of not only these pets from the individual, the impact from a caregiver, whether they be local or far and seeing the change in an effect from their mom or from their dad or for whoever receives.

113

00:21:18.990 --> 00:21:27.870

Greg Olsen: The path, but not only the testimonials we have a lot of great press it's a good feeling story, but it's not a story and it's not good feeling.

114

00:21:28.740 --> 00:21:37.290

Greg Olsen: it's it's something you can measure, and you can see it immediately and what you can't see is again i've been doing this work for almost 30 years.

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00:21:37.560 --> 00:21:47.040

Greg Olsen: I still get chills when I talk about this, this is one of the greatest projects i've ever been a part of in my three decades of working in the aging network it's just been amazing.

116

00:21:47.580 --> 00:21:59.070

Greg Olsen: But to see the pictures and the testimonials of individuals who had a pet you know 60 years ago and they named their cat after after one somebody who has just.

117

00:21:59.430 --> 00:22:03.240

Greg Olsen: gotten rid of a pet because they can't take care of it anymore can't afford it.

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00:22:04.020 --> 00:22:15.030

Greg Olsen: somebody who had a pet recently die and to see the emotional connection the immediate emotional connection that really has a long standing impact that is measurable.

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00:22:15.510 --> 00:22:27.960

Greg Olsen: is beyond it's beyond comprehension I think my motto has always been if you can change somebody's life for a little over $100 why wouldn't you do that and that's really what we've tried to do in New York state next next place.

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00:22:30.840 --> 00:22:39.630

Greg Olsen: So you know, this is probably not anything unique to what you guys see but in our core customers we're talking about people who are receiving personal care Level one and two.

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00:22:40.050 --> 00:22:49.920

Greg Olsen: home delivered meals social adult day people that were case managing our average customer living in our homes and communities are exactly the target population.

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00:22:50.250 --> 00:23:01.080

Greg Olsen: For this project 82 year old female lives alone low income high number of functional limitations and for more chronic conditions, this is exactly the target population.

123

00:23:01.440 --> 00:23:15.540

Greg Olsen: That we wanted to address, had I hadn't known prior to that there have been testing and assisted living or in the veterans hospitals, etc, what we wanted to specifically do was to test this within Community dwelling older adults.

124

00:23:16.110 --> 00:23:21.930

Greg Olsen: That were primarily did not have a cognitive impairment and that's what we focused on next place.

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00:23:24.600 --> 00:23:34.890

Greg Olsen: Thank you, and so you know i've talked to a lot of state counterparts as we roll this out i'm sure gene and Richard have as well how did you do it, how did you, you know fund it.

126

00:23:35.550 --> 00:23:40.980

Greg Olsen: You know, are we able to do this, do we have the flexibility to do this and that's where I go back to.

127

00:23:41.370 --> 00:23:44.040

Greg Olsen: there's some things that are so easy you don't have to overthink.

128

00:23:44.340 --> 00:23:56.670

Greg Olsen: You know we're all charged with with what to do, whether it be the older Americans act if you have state statutes and programs that wrap around that if your counties or Community organizations also do the same thing.

129

00:23:57.090 --> 00:24:12.210

Greg Olsen: The what is what we all do, that how, is where we have the flexibility to do things very innovatively and this fits under the how we are absolutely have the flexibility to funding and the allowable it to do.

130

00:24:13.020 --> 00:24:25.200

Greg Olsen: and put resources, whether they be federal state local private Community grants, whatever it might be to finance this really impactful social isolation.

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00:24:26.190 --> 00:24:33.030

Greg Olsen: Combating project but i'm just listing a few firm you for my lens because that all states are different.

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00:24:33.420 --> 00:24:37.680

Greg Olsen: The older Americans Act has required us for years to address isolation.

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00:24:37.950 --> 00:24:53.460

Greg Olsen: depression, anxiety, the certainly fits within Title three be Title three and caregiving certainly under the federal disaster declaration all of our funding can be used innovatively and flexibly at the local level to meet need so you have that.

134

00:24:53.910 --> 00:25:03.600

Greg Olsen: Clearly, Title three B is the most flexible funding stream that it's something that could have been done, years ago, it can be done now, and it can be done in the future.

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00:25:04.050 --> 00:25:10.440

Greg Olsen: I talked a little bit about the disaster declaration that we're still under so we do have those types of flexibility.

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00:25:11.040 --> 00:25:21.990

Greg Olsen: i'll talk about the stimulus funding in more detail on the next slide and New York state, we have very similar programs that really mirror federal title so in New York state, we have something called.

137

00:25:22.470 --> 00:25:31.980

Greg Olsen: CSC congregate services for the elderly, which is exactly like three Bay, we have the flexibility within those funding streams our governor.

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00:25:32.370 --> 00:25:41.460

Greg Olsen: Put in an executive order that mirror the federal disaster declaration that gave great flexibility for the use of our hundred and $85 million in federal funds.

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00:25:41.910 --> 00:25:46.410

Greg Olsen: And then, our counties actually put in 315 million dollars to support.

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00:25:46.890 --> 00:25:52.740

Greg Olsen: The aging network so there's a lot of opportunity to be innovative and that's just within what we control.

141

00:25:53.040 --> 00:25:57.480

Greg Olsen: That doesn't include the partnerships like I mentioned with federally qualified health centers.

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00:25:57.750 --> 00:26:03.630

Greg Olsen: Health plan, some of the slides that Ted went through, whether at the ml TC or medicaid or medicare advantage.

143

00:26:03.900 --> 00:26:12.180

Greg Olsen: You know, working with banks to get a $5,000 Community loan there's a lot of opportunities and again we're not talking about thousands of dollars.

144

00:26:12.510 --> 00:26:25.530

Greg Olsen: per person you're talking literally little over $100 to make a huge impact so again it's right in front of us, it says we can do you know the what it's the how and this is to how next, please.

145

00:26:28.050 --> 00:26:38.760

Greg Olsen: So if that doesn't convince you here's language that came right out of the American rescue plan, which is also similar to the cares act and under number see it specifically direct states.

146

00:26:39.690 --> 00:26:47.910

Greg Olsen: To address certain areas like combative isolation now somebody that used to work in the legislature and wrote a ton of bills and negotiated bills.

147

00:26:48.780 --> 00:26:54.930

Greg Olsen: These are things we were already allowed to do, but why would you put it in statute, because you want to put special emphasis on it.

148

00:26:55.260 --> 00:27:03.030

Greg Olsen: So that people take an action, because you put language behind what you wanted the priority to be and that's how I read.

149

00:27:03.570 --> 00:27:11.910

Greg Olsen: A, B and C in the American rescue plan associated with supportive services vaccination issues and combating social isolation.

150

00:27:12.210 --> 00:27:18.420

Greg Olsen: using technology and any other things so again, not the what but the how which we all have the power.

151

00:27:18.780 --> 00:27:24.090

Greg Olsen: and ability to do when you have great leaders like gene and Richard who understand.

152

00:27:24.390 --> 00:27:34.950

Greg Olsen: These types of flexibilities and provide the leadership that folks need the green light the backbone that you can do this you're not going to get whacked we're not coming in afterwards.

153

00:27:35.640 --> 00:27:51.090

Greg Olsen: You know, to to say you did something wrong that a lot of times is all that the network needs to do the types of innovative things they need to do, and they know best, because they know who their communities are to address a whole variety of issues including this one next, please.

154

00:27:53.970 --> 00:28:05.490

Greg Olsen: So i'm going to wrap up by saying I was, I was very surprised those invited our program in New York was nominated as one of the best practices during the pandemic.

155

00:28:06.240 --> 00:28:16.830

Greg Olsen: To combat social isolation, so we were in the running with a bunch of other organizations that had amazing projects and our project was voted the winner.

156

00:28:17.730 --> 00:28:32.580

Greg Olsen: which was great it was a great honor again I you know we didn't need to know what we were doing was effective, but it was really nice to have people here this same kind of you know metric based data driven feel good.

157

00:28:33.840 --> 00:28:39.240

Greg Olsen: impactful way to address something low hanging fruit low budget high yield.

158

00:28:40.260 --> 00:28:51.540

Greg Olsen: And, and we want a statewide Award for that that allowed us to get a well me personally, a 20 $500 check that I gave to my favorite charity, which was hospice of the north country.

159

00:28:52.470 --> 00:28:58.890

Greg Olsen: To continue the great work that they do to help people at the end stages of life, so I couldn't be more proud to be.

160

00:28:59.310 --> 00:29:06.270

Greg Olsen: On this panel with with all of these great individuals to have been connected to Ted and his team, and this is something that.

161

00:29:06.750 --> 00:29:20.670

Greg Olsen: is absolutely sustainable because i'm going to make sure that it is sustainable, this is a winner it's not complicated and it's something anybody can do anytime, and so I hope you give it a second and third luck, especially after you hear from Richard and gene.

162

00:29:22.680 --> 00:29:23.820

Ted Fischer: And thanks so much Greg.

163

00:29:24.900 --> 00:29:27.780

Ted Fischer: Without further ado i'll turn it over to my friend, Richard.

164

00:29:28.800 --> 00:29:37.200

Richard Prudom : Thanks Ted and it's great to be here, you know when we're talking about setting up this this this call it made sense for Greg to go first.

165

00:29:37.620 --> 00:29:41.970

Richard Prudom : Not only because obviously New York had actually engaged in the pilot back in 2018.

166

00:29:42.420 --> 00:29:52.260

Richard Prudom : But Greg just has done such a great job of explaining the perspective and the narrative and showing how this can be easily accomplished, regardless of how big a state, you are.

167

00:29:52.590 --> 00:30:01.230

Richard Prudom : Because we're at the end of the day, we're all just a series of small communities, and you know and and his words are basically here, this is how you can get this done.

168

00:30:01.710 --> 00:30:14.430

Richard Prudom : And you know, basically, Jean and I are just here just sort of like you know, reaffirming exactly what he's saying and showing how successful this has this program has been you know, obviously, when the pandemic first hit.

169

00:30:15.570 --> 00:30:21.000

Richard Prudom : This state like all the other states we focused our immediate attention on dressing basic needs, you know we're talking about.

170

00:30:21.330 --> 00:30:31.830

Richard Prudom : The steep increase in needs for our home delivered meals and staffing grocery prescription services, but then once those processes stabilized then we started shifting the focus to addressing.

171

00:30:32.460 --> 00:30:42.570

Richard Prudom : Social emotional needs and brainstorming creative ways to address and help mitigate the negative Hilton health impacts and loneliness and socialization that which obviously Greg.

172

00:30:43.080 --> 00:30:52.260

Richard Prudom : told us told us about which is very sobering when you sort of see those statistics, but I remember when we were we were brainstorming I was like.

173

00:30:53.160 --> 00:30:57.810

Richard Prudom : I said I remember being at a an alzheimer's conference with some fellow from.

174

00:30:58.500 --> 00:31:02.790

Richard Prudom : I think it was New York talking about robotic pets I said i'm not quite sure what it was all about.

175

00:31:03.210 --> 00:31:15.630

Richard Prudom : But let me try and track the fella down, so I did I called Ted and Lo and behold, obviously, that contact was made and I did my research looked at what new yorker done and then obviously we started sort of.

176

00:31:16.980 --> 00:31:20.220

Richard Prudom : rolling that out what we did, first of all, are we focused on.

177

00:31:21.330 --> 00:31:33.780

Richard Prudom : The needs of people living in long term care facilities, two thirds of our people in those facilities are living with some sort of dementia and we know that visitation was suspended to protect them from Cobra but.

178

00:31:35.100 --> 00:31:42.180

Richard Prudom : You know the disproportionate impact on older adults from the pandemic was actually you know even more felt by these individuals so.

179

00:31:43.170 --> 00:31:54.630

Richard Prudom : We we introduced some specific design tablets for use by then, but also we recognize that these individuals are lonely anyway, and so we started buying some of these robotic pets.

180

00:31:55.080 --> 00:32:06.660

Richard Prudom : And found them to be just as successful as Greg as outlined and then you know we issued a press release and talked about the success of this program and how it was going to.

181

00:32:07.560 --> 00:32:14.760

Richard Prudom : You know, change the lives of people who living in these facilities, with all that sort of incredible social isolation that they were exhibiting.

182

00:32:15.180 --> 00:32:25.470

Richard Prudom : But then, you know we realized, we were getting calls from people well my loved one is not in a long term care facility, but she or he is living with dementia or she or he is lonely.

183

00:32:25.920 --> 00:32:32.970

Richard Prudom : they've had a pet that's just died so we're like hey bring it on, and you know if we go to the next next slide in the net.

184

00:32:33.300 --> 00:32:37.560

Richard Prudom : You know what we'll see here we've delivered almost 8000 across Florida.

185

00:32:37.830 --> 00:32:47.010

Richard Prudom : Initially, like I said starting to look at the narrow focus of people in long term care facility to recognizing this can impact anybody who's living at home, who has.

186

00:32:47.280 --> 00:32:53.460

Richard Prudom : You know what we just talked about it has has issues with social isolation and loneliness and you sort of seen the studies.

187

00:32:53.820 --> 00:33:00.060

Richard Prudom : In the warm fuzzy stuff is what already really makes us feel good, especially during the pandemic when you've had a down day.

188

00:33:00.330 --> 00:33:08.520

Richard Prudom : You know the best thing is to do is open up your email and see another letter saying thank you and I think that's something that's critical to go to the next slide.

189

00:33:08.910 --> 00:33:13.320

Richard Prudom : Please, the net and you'll also see this is these testimonials kept rolling in.

190

00:33:13.740 --> 00:33:19.020

Richard Prudom : And you know we'd have a crappy day and we live okay just pull up a testimonial you feel good about stuff and it just.

191

00:33:19.320 --> 00:33:28.350

Richard Prudom : That is what is all about right there it when someone takes the time to hand write a letter to you to say thank you and then the look on their faces of just.

192

00:33:28.740 --> 00:33:38.850

Richard Prudom : Other just peace and calm and just like comfort is you know it actually sort of keeps you going, you know so it's it's been really exciting about that and.

193

00:33:39.660 --> 00:33:53.610

Richard Prudom : If you go to the next slide I think there's a couple of other pitches and this lady was it was it was a hoot I mean hundred and five years old and apparently don't think it's saying too much is that she hadn't talked in a couple of months and.

194

00:33:54.630 --> 00:34:02.220

Richard Prudom : Once she received this pet then she was going around introducing her to everybody and talking so so the staff like whoa what just happened here.

195

00:34:02.820 --> 00:34:12.750

Richard Prudom : And that was in a bit and penny she's a live wire around there and stuff for this so she is that picture speaks you know says it all really and going to the last slide before I turn over the gene.

196

00:34:13.470 --> 00:34:16.740

Richard Prudom : Just like Greg was saying, a lot of state and national media coverage.

197

00:34:17.400 --> 00:34:27.030

Richard Prudom : But I will just want to shame Greg here that I did get a conversation with the new yorker so obviously just to one up in right there is, I did talk to the new yorker magazine so.

198

00:34:27.960 --> 00:34:37.680

Richard Prudom : It was great, but an all joking aside, I tell you, you know we're going to keep this going because it just makes sense, even though obviously we're hoping the virus is going to be.

199

00:34:38.070 --> 00:34:51.390

Richard Prudom : Finally, defeated this social isolation loneliness is going to continue, and this is one superb you know, a relatively inexpensive way to address this moving on so with That said, I will turn it back to you, sir.

200

00:34:52.080 --> 00:34:57.870

Ted Fischer: Thanks so much thank you, Richard and I look forward to hearing now from from Jim brown Thank you Jane.

201

00:34:58.590 --> 00:35:00.480

Jean Brown: Thank you so much can everyone hear me.

202

00:35:02.610 --> 00:35:08.910

Jean Brown: Great well first i'd like to talk about how Alabama got into robotic pants.

203

00:35:10.020 --> 00:35:30.300

Jean Brown: It started when, in the spring of 2020 we were willing to the pandemic and our acl region for director Costas meniscus arrange for the region for issue right directors to hear from Greg about what they were doing to combat loneliness in New York.

204

00:35:32.010 --> 00:35:37.320

Jean Brown: Suddenly, I had gone from giving speeches about how.

205

00:35:38.370 --> 00:35:50.940

Jean Brown: detrimental loneliness and isolation can be for seniors to actually experiencing that myself, I have a daughter, and her family live, less than a mile away from me.

206

00:35:51.540 --> 00:36:05.100

Jean Brown: But during the beginning of the pandemic, I went a month, without seeing any family in France, and while i've been talking about that statistics of isolation and loneliness being.

207

00:36:05.640 --> 00:36:20.280

Jean Brown: more deadly than smoking 15 cigarettes a day, suddenly, I was experiencing some of those things myself, and when I heard Greg say that you could change the life of a senior for $100 or less.

208

00:36:20.790 --> 00:36:42.570

Jean Brown: And that their surveys had shown that the isolation and loneliness were reduced by around 70% that really got my attention and I talked with Greg I had also heard Richard talk about how successful the pits could be, and when you go on to our next slide.

209

00:36:43.740 --> 00:36:44.310

Jean Brown: and

210

00:36:45.900 --> 00:36:52.440

Jean Brown: I requested a dog and a cat so I could try them out for myself and I thought they were really cute.

211

00:36:53.820 --> 00:37:02.250

Jean Brown: The cat with her and rollover as you see, and then the doll would bark and tilt its head as you've seen and.

212

00:37:02.910 --> 00:37:15.000

Jean Brown: I decided that I wanted to pitch this idea to our AAA directors, we have 13 triple a's and Alabama and on a zoom call I.

213

00:37:15.930 --> 00:37:36.780

Jean Brown: showed them the dog and the cat and to try to get them to buy in to the idea I kind of had a naming contest where they suggested names for the dog and the cat and I ended up naming the black and white cat oreo and then I went with honey for the dog and then, when I.

214

00:37:37.830 --> 00:37:44.100

Jean Brown: lead our governor governor Cathy know about this pet project, she was extremely supportive.

215

00:37:44.700 --> 00:37:58.320

Jean Brown: And so we started and again we can move up a couple of slides, I think we started, I called it a pilot project, because to my knowledge, this had never been tried on a wide basis and Alabama.

216

00:37:59.160 --> 00:38:15.900

Jean Brown: But we're not considered the cost and how successful these pets had been in Florida and New York, I was all for it, and so we got a grant from a cl this was a no wrong door grant.

217

00:38:17.130 --> 00:38:25.650

Jean Brown: Because, to my knowledge, it had never been done in Alabama I wanted to be sure that in that grant application we specifically stated.

218

00:38:25.980 --> 00:38:44.700

Jean Brown: That we wanted to spend some of that money on robotic pets, and so we got that grant and we awarded $1,000 to HR triple a's and that allowed them to bat 10 of the robotic pets I think they started off with five dogs and pfaff pants.

219

00:38:45.300 --> 00:38:58.740

Jean Brown: And the bottom line laws, although learning from Richard and Greg about the pets that put me in a position to propose the pilot project.

220

00:38:59.190 --> 00:39:07.530

Jean Brown: I have to really praise our triple lies, because they were enthusiastic and they took the ball and they ran with it.

221

00:39:08.130 --> 00:39:19.380

Jean Brown: And so I was a little bit cautious and that's why we specifically stated in that grant application that we were going to use some of that grant for the robotic pets.

222

00:39:20.130 --> 00:39:33.390

Jean Brown: And then, our triple a's ended up using some discretionary cares funding and they bought another 81 pets to be distributed and then.

223

00:39:34.530 --> 00:39:45.480

Jean Brown: You could say eligibility and how we distributed the triple lies and Alabama decided who would get those pits that you're on the ground, they know their clients.

224

00:39:45.840 --> 00:40:04.470

Jean Brown: far better than the people at the state level do and the eligibility just said, if you're 60 and older and or living with alzheimer's or some other form of dementia, then you were eligible to receive a pet and then.

225

00:40:06.360 --> 00:40:16.830

Jean Brown: I have a legal background, and so I like evidence and I knew that in New York, they had used the loneliness scale that Greg mentioned the job.

226

00:40:17.160 --> 00:40:25.020

Jean Brown: And thank you for telling me how to pronounce that I wasn't sure Thank you Greg and then i've also learned that in Florida they use a survey.

227

00:40:25.470 --> 00:40:47.460

Jean Brown: So we use the same frequency as New York, I wanted to measure loneliness and isolation at the time the senior received the Pat, and then we measured those things at three months, six months and 12 months and then that that will be on our next slot I believe and.

228

00:40:48.840 --> 00:41:01.980

Jean Brown: i'm very thankful and happy to report that our survey results were right in line with Florida and New York, you can see that our initial survey consisted of 211 seniors.

229

00:41:02.640 --> 00:41:29.370

Jean Brown: Initial to three months, a 55% decrease and feelings of isolation and loneliness then initial to six months 60% decrease and then at 12 months a 69% decrease, so I was thrilled that our results were in line with Florida and New York and then, if you'll do the next slide please.

230

00:41:30.720 --> 00:41:37.470

Jean Brown: I have to tell you i'm not thrilled to have a slide that has my picture on it twice, but there's a reason for that.

231

00:41:38.160 --> 00:41:44.160

Jean Brown: If you look beneath the picture you'll see my name and position in the top one and then.

232

00:41:44.880 --> 00:41:57.780

Jean Brown: The bottom one you'll see they're talking about the Department of senior services and robotic pets, and so I want to let people who are in this meeting, know that there was another huge benefit to our.

233

00:41:58.980 --> 00:42:10.140

Jean Brown: robotic pet pilot project in addition to helping our seniors the Department of senior services and Alabama got a ton of free publicity.

234

00:42:11.160 --> 00:42:25.890

Jean Brown: That we don't often get and a lot of people have never heard of our department, but suddenly there we were you'll see on the slide, not only was there was spread coverage in the state of Alabama.

235

00:42:26.430 --> 00:42:37.260

Jean Brown: But I was amazed at the national coverage, we got you can see CNN msn news nation, and then a variety of states.

236

00:42:37.590 --> 00:42:45.660

Jean Brown: And when I was going back to look at the coverage for our slides I couldn't find it because it's been a year since I did.

237

00:42:46.140 --> 00:42:57.150

Jean Brown: Those segments highlighting our our pilot project, but I can tell you that we got publicity from as far away as Alaska and that's quite a wise from Alabama.

238

00:42:57.930 --> 00:43:09.510

Jean Brown: And then, finally, where are we going from here, moving forward, I don't consider this a pilot project anymore, as far as i'm concerned, the results are proven.

239

00:43:10.260 --> 00:43:19.290

Jean Brown: But what I would like to do going forward is that i'd like to fine tune the information that will receive in our surveys.

240

00:43:19.680 --> 00:43:37.710

Jean Brown: For example, going forward, we will add demographic information such as whether the recipient lives in a rural or urban area, I want to know do our recipients tell us whether it makes a difference if they receive a dog or a cat.

241

00:43:38.970 --> 00:43:41.400

Jean Brown: If you consider yourself a cat person.

242

00:43:42.420 --> 00:43:52.050

Jean Brown: Do you get a better result if you get a cat or do you get a better result if you get the dog, I personally am a cat person, but I think I like the dog a little bit better.

243

00:43:52.500 --> 00:44:05.670

Jean Brown: So we're going to be trying to fine tune our survey results to help us going forward and then there's another program in Alabama that has independently decided to hand out the pets.

244

00:44:06.180 --> 00:44:25.680

Jean Brown: that's called dementia friendly Alabama and they have separately purchased 240 pets to distribute across the state, and I want you to know that in the three months surveys that the word they chose for me is that we've been told by loved ones who have.

245

00:44:26.700 --> 00:44:36.720

Jean Brown: family members who have loved ones with dementia, that the dementia clients adore their pets and again that's the word they chose.

246

00:44:37.200 --> 00:44:57.960

Jean Brown: They report the recipients are happier less agitated and like to show their pets to friends and family, and so we will be awarding and additional brand of state money for dementia friendly Alabama and some of that money will be used for the robotic pets and then, as I sum up.

247

00:44:59.010 --> 00:45:11.220

Jean Brown: These were my thoughts as we're sitting a national resurgence and coven 19 cases i'm going to be encouraging our triple lives to continue expanding the use of robotic pets.

248

00:45:11.730 --> 00:45:25.440

Jean Brown: From my standpoint, they are very valuable to that we have to address loneliness and social isolation as one recipient told us about the pits they don't talk back.

249

00:45:26.040 --> 00:45:39.570

Jean Brown: In addition, there are no costly vet bills no pet food about and, unlike my cat they don't who's a real CAP they don't come running every time I open my refrigerator door so.

250

00:45:40.440 --> 00:45:54.240

Jean Brown: Thank you again it's been such a pleasure to be on a panel, with all of you, and just know that we announce them are honored to be on a panel with Ted and Greg and Richard, and thank you so much for this opportunity.

251

00:45:55.740 --> 00:46:00.660

Ted Fischer: Thank you Jane as awesome and it's hard not to sit here I.

252

00:46:00.720 --> 00:46:01.830

Ted Fischer: said yeah.

253

00:46:03.210 --> 00:46:09.060

Greg Olsen: i'm so sorry but can we get the neck, can you go back to slides to gene, because I think.

254

00:46:09.540 --> 00:46:20.640

Greg Olsen: You know there's something really important that she showed that needs to be underscored the one you just pass go to the next one, I just want to make a point quick and I know that Richard and gene.

255

00:46:21.180 --> 00:46:26.820

Greg Olsen: Probably and YouTube Ted are getting the same questions we do when you bring up at home, do you get sick of it.

256

00:46:27.330 --> 00:46:35.910

Greg Olsen: Right is is the is the amount of time spent you lose over time, this is one of the most important slides I have ever seen so.

257

00:46:36.390 --> 00:46:43.050

Greg Olsen: We didn't look at it over the course of this time but you're seeing exactly the opposite, so what we know.

258

00:46:43.350 --> 00:46:47.610

Greg Olsen: Is that after a year people did not get tired of it, but what this slide shows.

259

00:46:47.910 --> 00:46:59.280

Greg Olsen: is how the connection grows over time now that you take it home you play with it or cuddle it for a couple of days or a week and then you put it on a shelf, that the actual connection.

260

00:46:59.700 --> 00:47:06.150

Greg Olsen: grows over time and I just I can't underscore that enough this isn't a you know to day one, and done the.

261

00:47:06.630 --> 00:47:21.750

Greg Olsen: that's why the data that matches what gene showed Richard state and my jd are all right around 70 plus percent is after a year is that these connections grow and how important that is, and I just wanted to point that out, I think it's really important.

262

00:47:23.010 --> 00:47:26.880

Ted Fischer: That Greg and it's a great point I go back to one of the studies.

263

00:47:28.110 --> 00:47:35.010

Ted Fischer: And it was that you don't health care peace study and you know not that everybody looks at you know.

264

00:47:35.700 --> 00:47:49.620

Ted Fischer: The same metrics but what that study also showed is what they were most excited about with the number of the percentage of participants still interacting a year, a year and a half later with with the pets.

265

00:47:50.280 --> 00:47:59.910

Ted Fischer: You know, usually in the surveys, you have a drop off the other way right where you get 80%, but it was a 50, then the 30 they couldn't believe that it kind of kept climbing and that the.

266

00:48:00.210 --> 00:48:11.490

Ted Fischer: You know the number of folks dropping out of soda the answering the server your use case kept going, you know at the at the rate that it did so it's a great point and I really appreciate you, bringing it up.

267

00:48:12.900 --> 00:48:15.390

Ted Fischer: I want to get to some good Q amp a but just.

268

00:48:16.980 --> 00:48:27.630

Ted Fischer: These are the, these are the slides that I love the most it's the smiles and the happiness and the joy and its really was the intent of what we created and.

269

00:48:28.140 --> 00:48:37.140

Ted Fischer: You know, again, just as you just heard being partnered with these amazing organizations and impacting those most in need, at this difficult time, but really.

270

00:48:37.950 --> 00:48:49.320

Ted Fischer: as it relates to loneliness and isolation overall pandemic or not it's a growing problem it's not going to go away and working with innovators, like you, it has been such a pleasure so i'm going to show one last slide.

271

00:48:50.340 --> 00:48:59.370

Ted Fischer: Just so if you want to learn more because Tom would kill me if I didn't show it, but these slides are going to be available but Thomas ageless innovation COM it's Tom can you know.

272

00:49:00.000 --> 00:49:08.070

Ted Fischer: He would love to chat with you, if you're interested in learning more and i'd love to just kind of do some Q amp a if that's all right, with everyone.

273

00:49:09.330 --> 00:49:23.340

Ted Fischer: Again, you know, as I was listening and taking some notes a few things Donna me is you know I think you all point you said it, and we can go off the the presentation mode now that's all right, so we can get a look at everybody that's awesome alright appreciate it.

274

00:49:24.480 --> 00:49:30.450

Ted Fischer: But as we You know, as we heard from each State every state is different and there's different needs and different.

275

00:49:31.440 --> 00:49:37.770

Ted Fischer: You know I just I pointed out, so that New York and Florida, our first two partners and we thought we had it nailed with New York so.

276

00:49:38.430 --> 00:49:43.830

Ted Fischer: They had a central location, that we shipped all the pets to, and then they distributed them themselves.

277

00:49:44.400 --> 00:49:53.370

Ted Fischer: Through their their triple a's and our kids were in New York and Florida, rather it was we were like okay here's great they're like Oh, we don't have a central place where we can take all those in.

278

00:49:53.580 --> 00:49:56.940

Ted Fischer: So we created another platform to allow us to deliver.

279

00:49:57.600 --> 00:50:08.820

Ted Fischer: individually to each each recipient, and I just love to hear from from all of you, you know any logistical challenges that you had or you overcame because it is different for everyone right, those are.

280

00:50:09.090 --> 00:50:17.640

Ted Fischer: two very different scenarios and one of the things that I, you know I credit my team with is our ability to be flexible and work with you, you know, regardless of what that situation so.

281

00:50:17.850 --> 00:50:24.360

Ted Fischer: Any other sort of logistical challenges that you can talk about our how you might overcome it because I know it's a big deal for folks.

282

00:50:27.270 --> 00:50:27.600

Ted Fischer: Anyone.

283

00:50:27.930 --> 00:50:36.000

Greg Olsen: For us, there were no logistical challenges, so if you, you know i've ever seen a picture of downtown Albany with the egg in the building that's where I work we have.

284

00:50:36.690 --> 00:50:48.030

Greg Olsen: A lot of space, fortunately, under the building, but you know, having them delivered to us then allowed me an opportunity to work with the triple a's to make sure that the distribution schedule met their needs.

285

00:50:48.870 --> 00:50:54.480

Greg Olsen: You know place might have been different during the pandemic, some people didn't go into the office, so they might have been shipped to.

286

00:50:54.870 --> 00:51:02.430

Greg Olsen: A Department of Transportation warehouse or what have you so we wanted to set that up now there's additional cost for us to do that, but.

287

00:51:03.180 --> 00:51:10.440

Greg Olsen: that's Okay, because what I wanted to do is make it as easy as possible on a schedule that was within a day or two timeframe.

288

00:51:10.920 --> 00:51:21.360

Greg Olsen: To meet the needs of the triple a's in the city, we do it a little bit differently, like Richard did where we'll send them directly to the provider, rather than to the department for the aging.

289

00:51:22.290 --> 00:51:28.470

Greg Olsen: But it's it was easier for us to try to help coordinate that to take as much pressure off the triple a's as possible.

290

00:51:30.090 --> 00:51:42.810

Richard Prudom : yeah and it was like Greg was saying, obviously with central larry's reception Initially it was you know we We were worried about the the impact of so many, but it worked really well and it.

291

00:51:43.500 --> 00:51:48.390

Richard Prudom : We have a Bureau of elder rights here in the in the central office, the.

292

00:51:49.140 --> 00:52:00.960

Richard Prudom : The Department of aging here and they actually did a great job with that, and they would obviously utilize a triple a's, to the extent possible to sort of realize those deliveries, if possible, if necessary, but like Greg.

293

00:52:01.230 --> 00:52:06.960

Richard Prudom : said it's not I didn't have their hands full taking care of other stuff so anything we could do to relief relief.

294

00:52:07.470 --> 00:52:11.670

Richard Prudom : relieve them of that pressure, we would do that and it's also gratifying when you actually sort of.

295

00:52:12.510 --> 00:52:24.390

Richard Prudom : You know, receiving the things yourself and patting him and passing off to someone with a little note inside the box and stuff and then getting a note back and stuff so it very much personalized that the the the process for us yeah.

296

00:52:24.960 --> 00:52:29.400

Jean Brown: And and and Alabama we decided it would work best for us, we gave.

297

00:52:30.510 --> 00:52:36.780

Jean Brown: NGA have $1,000 to each AAA and then they ordered the pets and distributed the pets.

298

00:52:39.150 --> 00:52:40.140

Ted Fischer: yeah that's great.

299

00:52:41.610 --> 00:52:52.170

Ted Fischer: So one of the things that we were so gratified in in sort of the response to these programs and I love for you all to either share story or.

300

00:52:52.530 --> 00:52:58.530

Ted Fischer: Your experience but it wasn't just the recipient of the pet that was benefiting from the pet.

301

00:52:59.340 --> 00:53:04.950

Ted Fischer: We heard so many stories of how grateful loved ones were who had been separated from their.

302

00:53:05.220 --> 00:53:19.290

Ted Fischer: Their older does he need to talk a little bit about you know sort of the ancillary benefit not just for the end user, but for others that were involved, because caregivers who are in a loved one family members, you know what do you want to start if you if you had any thoughts on that.

303

00:53:19.800 --> 00:53:32.130

Jean Brown: Sure um and you talk about caregivers and we know that caregivers are at increased risk for anxiety and depression and we knew that before cove it but.

304

00:53:33.030 --> 00:53:44.700

Jean Brown: There were two amazing instances in Alabama that were related back here givers and they each cared for women who had not spoken in months.

305

00:53:46.530 --> 00:53:58.770

Jean Brown: very long period of time and then both of those started talking when they got their robotic pat one said pretty and then one started taking her pet around showing it.

306

00:53:58.800 --> 00:54:16.050

Jean Brown: to other people, which of course also help reduce her isolation and loneliness because she has something to talk to, or something to talk about to people around her so that was almost miraculous to me when someone who had been not speaking started talking.

307

00:54:17.370 --> 00:54:17.940

that's great.

308

00:54:19.080 --> 00:54:26.250

Richard Prudom : I think the same thing, obviously we had the same sort of experiences, but you know, sometimes it was a caregiver care partner who would reach out to us and say.

309

00:54:26.580 --> 00:54:36.810

Richard Prudom : I you know I need my loved one would would like one of these, but when they actually received them the individual would just take the pat and just immediately interact.

310

00:54:37.320 --> 00:54:45.240

Richard Prudom : As they saw fit that there was no necessarily sort of like introducing they will either, so I just take it and it becomes an instant connection.

311

00:54:45.660 --> 00:54:52.920

Richard Prudom : And then everything was Okay, and then we'll hear the stories back you know now I can have a caregiver because now, I can go and take some time off because.

312

00:54:53.340 --> 00:55:02.400

Richard Prudom : My my husband now sits down and watch the news with his pet for an hour and the other sit down and watch a sports game together, and that gives me the time I need to.

313

00:55:03.090 --> 00:55:20.850

Richard Prudom : To decompress, but it was not so much a where the caregiver had to stage that stuff and manage that process, it was instantaneous and I think you know Greg and Jean can talk about that each one is a unique experience of how the engaged and but each one is special in its own way.

314

00:55:23.280 --> 00:55:32.250

Greg Olsen: yeah yeah and I, you know I we've had the same experience just watching people who haven't been verbal become verbal I mean it's it's a miracle.

315

00:55:32.520 --> 00:55:38.340

Greg Olsen: But we see the same types of things with music right, I mean that's why I kind of opened up with that my favorite story.

316

00:55:38.970 --> 00:55:48.150

Greg Olsen: And there's a lot of them, you know the NBC affiliate at a plattsburgh I know people take a New York that they could New York City that New York is a huge rural state.

317

00:55:48.540 --> 00:55:56.820

Greg Olsen: We have you know suburban areas and urban areas, but we are primarily rural, like many other States across the country, so the northern end is.

318

00:55:57.930 --> 00:56:02.910

Greg Olsen: A couple of counties, and so the NBC affiliate out of plattsburgh New York, which is on the Canadian border.

319

00:56:03.720 --> 00:56:22.950

Greg Olsen: did a story for one of our first recipient of the pet, this was an older person with early onset cognitive impairment, she was a widow for about 20 years son lived in Colorado daughter lived in saratoga springs saratoga is about two hours and 45 minutes away.

320

00:56:24.000 --> 00:56:31.800

Greg Olsen: So the woman who received the pat would sit in front of the TV all day and just glaze over that was basically her life.

321

00:56:32.820 --> 00:56:41.940

Greg Olsen: She received the Pat, and not only the change in her, she began reading she began knitting she began walking she started volunteering again.

322

00:56:42.240 --> 00:56:54.510

Greg Olsen: She was going outside never turn the TV on that was the impact to her we interviewed her son and her daughter, who to richard's point in jeans as well saw an immediate change in her aspect.

323

00:56:55.230 --> 00:57:11.190

Greg Olsen: The tone of her voice how she communicated they weren't worried as much about her because something had changed, and it was a cat and she left the the NBC interview with one you know message to all of us.

324

00:57:12.210 --> 00:57:21.000

Greg Olsen: You can try to rip this cat out of my dead hands, but you won't be able to, I want to be buried with this cat there's nothing you can do about it.

325

00:57:23.040 --> 00:57:29.190

Ted Fischer: awesome story so i'm just looking at the chat screen here there's a couple questions and we may have already answered this but.

326

00:57:29.430 --> 00:57:34.650

Ted Fischer: To Bailey asked in your experience that people need to have an active caregiver or someone to promote the use.

327

00:57:34.920 --> 00:57:43.650

Ted Fischer: Of the patch or participants able to use and interact with them independently so i'm just gonna ask one of you to sort of respond to that because I want to get to a couple of the other questions as well.

328

00:57:45.660 --> 00:57:46.080

Greg Olsen: You know.

329

00:57:48.180 --> 00:57:52.470

Ted Fischer: Your experience, and I think what the story is that you just told really had talked about it.

330

00:57:52.680 --> 00:57:53.160

Richard Prudom : Many.

331

00:57:53.220 --> 00:57:59.940

Ted Fischer: In certain cases, you know people receive the pad in it it's one of the things that we love about it, we don't talk about the technology that much we kind of talked about the magic.

332

00:58:00.270 --> 00:58:04.050

Ted Fischer: Because a lot more fun to talk about, but you know you get the pack, you name it.

333

00:58:04.680 --> 00:58:14.070

Ted Fischer: Honey or oreo and and then the magic starts, and I think that's the simplicity to it right he doesn't even have to read or an instruction book to figure out how to how to do this right so.

334

00:58:14.730 --> 00:58:22.350

Ted Fischer: Someone to turn it on whether that's the end user or caregiver but, for the most part, and really I think loved ones and caregivers have the best to decide.

335

00:58:22.620 --> 00:58:35.310

Ted Fischer: How their loved one should receive the bed some you know open the box and do it so maybe out of the box and you hand it you explain it and those type of things, but I think that's pretty universal and I think it's very much up to the level one or caregiver.

336

00:58:36.390 --> 00:58:45.060

Richard Prudom : I think Ted one aspect is that sometimes you know, in the long term care facilities or even people's homes, the caregiver would say okay it's time for.

337

00:58:45.690 --> 00:58:58.470

Richard Prudom : oreo to go to sleep now and make sure that the battery was still up and running, and that was the key That was the only responsibility had is because they were so worried that the cat would not be responsive because of the battery going down.

338

00:58:58.680 --> 00:59:02.220

Richard Prudom : That they think it was dead so some families actually say I want to have these pets to make.

339

00:59:02.550 --> 00:59:15.600

Richard Prudom : One as a backup, just in case because I am so concerned that you know, was the battery running out, but as you, I think you said, the battery is a long lasting battery it's not like putting in a cup of triple double a's if this thing is can last a long time.

340

00:59:15.930 --> 00:59:26.400

Ted Fischer: yeah yeah some, as you can see, I have to live by office that you'd expect but somewhere that you know foresee batteries they've been in it for a year and not turned off because there's sort of.

341

00:59:26.910 --> 00:59:40.200

Ted Fischer: A trickle charge, you know sleep mode when it really impacts, the battery very little i'm going to move to a question from Christine beginning I hope I pronounced that correctly was there a survey sent to caregivers.

342

00:59:42.090 --> 00:59:43.890

Ted Fischer: And anyone can answer.

343

00:59:46.530 --> 00:59:48.420

Ted Fischer: Was there a survey sent to caregivers we.

344

00:59:48.450 --> 00:59:59.460

Greg Olsen: We did not do that, we have anecdotal data in working with for those individuals that actually have a caregiver I mean again a lot of the folks that we targeted don't have anybody.

345

01:00:00.570 --> 01:00:09.720

Greg Olsen: Their case manager would be that that you know the conduit was more anecdotal data that what we really measured was the impact on the person.

346

01:00:12.570 --> 01:00:19.620

Richard Prudom : And same in Florida, and I have not got the survey results here but i'll make sure you get them after the after the presentation, but.

347

01:00:20.220 --> 01:00:34.080

Richard Prudom : One thing we're looking at, with the additional American rescue plan funding is there is separate funding for caregiver support and maybe sort of this is something that we can look at regarding sort of not only funding for the pets but measuring exactly what that.

348

01:00:35.160 --> 01:00:38.190

Richard Prudom : impact was for the caregiver and great question.

349

01:00:39.180 --> 01:00:44.130

Jean Brown: Well, and we may very well do that now Alabama to survive the caregivers.

350

01:00:45.840 --> 01:00:59.760

Ted Fischer: So i'll end with this coming, we have only a couple minutes left, but in 30 seconds or a minute love to hear you know what's the future of the programs in your respective States when post pandemic plan.

351

01:01:02.100 --> 01:01:02.730

Ted Fischer: Greg Sir.

352

01:01:05.430 --> 01:01:11.910

Greg Olsen: Well it's simple as to continue to build the momentum, this is something that goes well beyond excuse me just older adults.

353

01:01:12.750 --> 01:01:17.070

Greg Olsen: This is an all agency all human being issue, it was an older adults who are isolated.

354

01:01:17.820 --> 01:01:27.720

Greg Olsen: The data that we've seen that have come out of CDC over the last couple of years on caregiving responsibilities should be sobering for all of us 52% contemplated suicide.

355

01:01:28.530 --> 01:01:41.160

Greg Olsen: Using alcohol drugs food etc to cope, you know isolation is a real issue it doesn't just impact older adults, this is much beyond the state units, but if we can lead the charge by showing.

356

01:01:41.550 --> 01:01:49.260

Greg Olsen: Something data driven, which I think we've more than collectively done together and continue to do things like this to really show the efficacy.

357

01:01:49.740 --> 01:01:56.880

Greg Olsen: For the low cost the high yield benefits that you get out of it, you just keep building momentum and certainly again, at least within our network.

358

01:01:57.360 --> 01:02:13.620

Greg Olsen: And, and as you can see from others there's that you showed with medicare medicaid and other financing sources, this can really be blown out to really help children, adolescents persons with disabilities anybody who's isolated whether they're being subsidized or they buy them directly.

359

01:02:14.640 --> 01:02:15.510

Ted Fischer: Thanks Rachel.

360

01:02:15.930 --> 01:02:20.550

Richard Prudom : Just to add from florida's point of view is you know if you go back to Greg slide where he showed sort of what the.

361

01:02:20.760 --> 01:02:29.700

Richard Prudom : focus of the American rescue plan funds are is to use technology to address social isolation, this does it and then some and so now we have obviously.

362

01:02:30.300 --> 01:02:38.880

Richard Prudom : demonstrated evidence that it works, and we also have the funding to be able to make it sustainable, you know into the future, so we're excited about continuing this to.

363

01:02:40.170 --> 01:02:41.640

Ted Fischer: give my friend Jane the last word.

364

01:02:41.940 --> 01:02:55.590

Jean Brown: Thank you so much, well, of course, isolation and loneliness Is this the before coven came along, and it will continue to exist, so many seniors don't have any family who live nearby and.

365

01:02:56.850 --> 01:03:07.080

Jean Brown: I hope and pray that one day we're no longer talking about coven and all the isolation it's causing but in Alabama My hope is that we will continue the Program.

366

01:03:07.950 --> 01:03:14.460

Ted Fischer: that's great oh Thank you all so much for joining it always honored to be on stage with you.

367

01:03:15.240 --> 01:03:30.210

Ted Fischer: The Code, the coven related stage as we as we're still remote, but hopefully be together soon and again like to thank advancing States and all of you who joined today, it really appreciate your attention and we're here to help if we can so thanks so much.

368

01:03:32.730 --> 01:03:32.910

Greg Olsen: bill.