

Western Veterinary Conferences

Nashville 2026

Sponsorship Proposal: Finding Joy & Building Resilience Through Better Interpersonal Communication

Workshop Overview

Finding Joy & Building Resilience Through Better Interpersonal Communication is an interactive workshop designed to help veterinary professionals strengthen interpersonal communication skills that support emotional resilience, teamwork, and professional fulfillment.

Through experiential learning and guided improv discussion, participants will explore how communication habits influence workplace relationships and stress levels. The session emphasizes inclusivity and practical skill development that participants can immediately apply in their professional roles.

Workshop Instructors

Ruthanne Chun, DVM, DACVIM (Oncology)

Laura Garrett, DVM, DACVIM (Oncology)

Workshop Objectives

1. Recognize the benefits of using an improv mindset to frame interactions with others
2. Listen and respond productively to individuals experiencing heightened emotional states
3. Gain insight into how they interact with others in the workplace

Educational Content Summary

During this workshop, we will review and reinforce several core communication skills through applied improv exercises and discussion. The utility of the core communication skills is reinforced through applied improv exercises and discussions to uncover key learning points. We use the same exercises taught in improvisational theatre classes; building from easy and low-stakes activities to ones that are more complex, while ensuring that participants are learning in a safe and supportive environment.

Audience & Format

Target Audience: Veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary assistants, practice managers, and veterinary students

Capacity: 36 participants (limited enrollment)

Format: In-person, interactive, improv-based workshop



Sponsorship Opportunity

Sponsorship of Finding Joy & Building Resilience Through Better Interpersonal Communication provides a meaningful opportunity to support education focused on wellbeing, emotional intelligence, and effective communication within veterinary teams. Sponsor recognition may include acknowledgment in conference materials, verbal recognition during the workshop, and sponsor signage or educational materials, in accordance with conference guidelines.

Use of Sponsorship Support

Sponsorship funds will directly support delivery of the interactive workshop, including facilitation resources, room setup, and logistical needs associated with a limited enrollment, learning session.

Conclusion

Sponsorship of this workshop supports high-value education that promotes healthier communication, stronger teams, and increased resilience among veterinary professionals. By reinforcing practical communication skills in a supportive environment, this session contributes to improved workplace culture and long-term professional wellbeing.