



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 16, 2022

Contact: Elisabeth Van Every, Pet Partners
425-679-5514 | press@petpartners.org

Pet Partners Welcomes Dr. Kristin Bloink to its Board of Directors

Bellevue, WA – Pet Partners, the nation’s leading organization registering therapy animals for animal-assisted interventions (AAI), is pleased to welcome Elanco Animal Health’s Kristin Bloink, PA-C, MPH, DVM, DACVPM, to its Board of Directors.

Dr. Bloink has more than 30 years of experience spanning from human medicine to veterinary medicine. Her professional endeavors have included human clinical trial design and execution, animal drug discovery and development, translational model development and execution, and human and veterinary clinical medical delivery in the private as well as the military sector. In her current role, she is the Vice President of Global Regulatory Affairs and Pharmacovigilance at Elanco Animal Health. In this role, she leads the team that manages the registration and product stewardship requirements for a wide host of product types for six major species across 90+ countries. Dr. Bloink also chairs the corporate nonprofit Elanco Foundation, focused on food security and human-animal bond initiatives globally.

Dr. Bloink has a DVM from Michigan State University, an MPH from the University of Michigan, a BS in Human Medicine – Physician Assistant from the University of Iowa, and is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventative Medicine.

“I am excited to bring a deep passion for the human-animal bond, a love of analytics, fact-based decision making, and organization strategy setting to the Pet Partners Board of Directors,” said Bloink.

Dogs have been a passion for Dr. Bloink since age 12, when a well-planned sales pitch worked on her parents, yielding a lovely golden retriever. She has shared her life with dogs since then, and she continues to be impressed and blessed to explore and experience the amazing ways canines join us in life. A leonberger named Bear was her first therapy dog. He was huge, calm, and incredibly approachable. Visits to the local VA hospital and local university became favorite therapy visit destinations. Dr. Bloink and Doc, a golden retriever, became a new Pet Partners therapy animal team last fall, and are enjoying regular visits to a memory care facility and a charter elementary/middle school.

“I am so pleased to have Dr. Bloink bring her passion for pets and pet health to our board of directors,” said C. Annie Peters, President & CEO of Pet Partners. “Her knowledge and expertise, coupled with the first-hand experience she has gained through her volunteer work as a Pet Partners therapy animal team with her dog Doc, bring a unique perspective to the board that is so vital.”

About Pet Partners

Pet Partners is the national leader in demonstrating and promoting the health and wellness benefits of animal-assisted therapy, activities, and education. Since the organization’s inception in 1977, the science

proving these benefits has become indisputable. With thousands of registered teams making millions of visits annually, Pet Partners serves as the nation's most diverse and respected nonprofit registering handlers of multiple species as volunteer teams. Pet Partners teams visit with patients in recovery, people with intellectual disabilities, seniors living with Alzheimer's, students, veterans with PTSD, people who have experienced crisis events, and those approaching end of life, with the goal of improving human health and well-being through the human-animal bond. With the release of its Standards of Practice for Animal-Assisted Interventions and international expansion, Pet Partners is globally recognized as the industry gold standard. For more information on Pet Partners, visit www.petpartners.org.

###