



# Impact and Benefit White Paper: Executive Summary

## Introduction

Ageless Innovation's Joy for All Companion Pets were originally launched by Hasbro as a consumer product for older adults in 2015. They were designed with the goal of inspiring play, fun, and companionship among a population that is too often overlooked as needing something as simple and pure as "play."

## Seeing potential

As interest in the pets grew among consumers, health care professionals across senior living communities, memory care communities, hospitals, and health plans became intrigued by the potential impact of the Joy for All Companion Pets.

Specifically, there was interest in measuring how the pets could address two of the most prominent challenges associated with aging:

1. Supporting individuals and caregivers of those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD)
2. Aiding individuals who are suffering from social isolation and loneliness

From this, more than 10 research projects – each independently initiated and led by care professionals – have been conducted on the effectiveness of Joy for All Companion Pets in improving the overall quality of life and care for older adults.

## Seeing results













Woven throughout each of these independent studies are the consistent themes of reduced feelings of isolation and loneliness and improved quality of care and life for older adults, their families, and care providers. Findings include:

- Reduced feelings of depression, isolation and loneliness
- Mitigating ADRD decline and associated behavioral issues
- Providing an engaging experience that calms individuals without use of medication
- Improved cognitive activity and capability
- Helping to provide a sense of purpose
- Reducing the burden of care for care partners (professionals and family members)

## Continued positive reach

Equally encouraging to the study results themselves is the scalability of the pets' impact and reach. There is high broader distribution potential of the pets to achieve similar positive outcomes. Joy for All pets' proven impact, ease of use, and cost effectiveness compared to many other interventions make it an ideal opportunity for care providers and leaders to consider in their efforts to address the needs of our older and most vulnerable adult populations.

## Study outcomes at a glance

	Researcher	Setting	Primary Findings
 	AARP/UnitedHealthcare	Home	Reduced loneliness and improved well being (i.e. purpose, resilience)
	University of Albany/Albany Medical Center	Hospital/ICU	Addressed ADRD-related behavioral issues (i.e. delirium)
	Wrexham Glyndwr University, UK	Home	Addressed ADRD-related behavioral issues and increased social interaction
	Pace University/Jamaica Hospital Medical Center	Hospital	Reduced delirium, improved mood, reduced loneliness
	Alacare Home Health & Hospice	Home (hospice)	Reduced agitation, reduced depression, reduced loneliness in those with ADRD
 	VA/Sierra Nevada Health Care System	Community Living Center	Reduced ADRD-related behavioral issues and improved mood
	James Madison University/Bridgewater Retirement Community	Long Term Care	Reduced ADRD-related behavioral issues, reduced loneliness, and reduced caregiver burden
	The Association of Relatives of Alzheimer Patients. (AFEDAZ), Spain	Centers	Reduced ADRD-related behavioral issues, reduced loneliness, and increased social interaction
	Florida Atlantic University, College of Nursing	Adult Day Care	Improved mood and decreased depression
	University of Plymouth, UK	Assisted Living Facility	Improved wellbeing, reduced anxiety and agitation