



Do you or a loved one suffer from loneliness, isolation or cognitive impairment? The Albemarle Commission Area Agency on Aging is excited to be offering a new pilot program to learn more about the benefits of animatronic pets among the older adult population (60+). These *Joy For All Companion Pets* were designed by Hasbro in 2015 with the “goal of inspiring play, fun and companionship among a population that is often overlooked and needing something as simple and pure as play.”

According to several independent studies, these animatronic pets were shown to:

- Help reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness among older adults
- Reduce behavioral issues such as depression, anxiety and agitation
- Provide a sense of purpose and calm in individuals
- Improve mental function and capability
- Reduce burden of care for care partners

For more information on how you can apply to receive one of these pets, please contact our office at 252-426-8244.

**Cats available in various colors.

