



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Clark Curtis, 704.808.1959 or clark@phoenixzonesinitiative.org

Biomedical Research Must Evolve Into the 21st Century

An Esteemed Group of Scientists and Public Health Officials Are Calling for
Dramatic Changes to Medical Research Methods

February 2, 2022 (Albuquerque, NM) -- An esteemed group of experts from the fields of medicine, ethics, the sciences and public health have outlined an innovative and revolutionary roadmap to a more ethical research framework for humans and other animals. They discussed the existing problems and potential solutions in a recent virtual event, [Transforming Medical Research: Advancing Modern, Ethical Methods to Help People and Animals](#), hosted by Phoenix Zones Initiative, a global nonprofit based in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Their findings included

- Hundreds of millions of animals are used each year for laboratory research.
- Animals are targeted because of their vulnerabilities.
- Animal welfare failures have completely upended the integrity of science.
- Holding animals captive leads to measurable physiological changes in the brain and immune function.
- There is unequivocal evidence that animals in captivity that undergo testing suffer extreme trauma.

Their recommendations included

- We need 21st century science to address 21st century needs.
- We have an arsenal of human biology-based methods that eliminate the need for animal testing.
- Non-animal technologies could put an end to enormous suffering for both animals and humans.
- We need to acknowledge that captivity is harmful to animals and that they want and require freedom.
- We must engage in a global reassessment of how, why, and whether we harm other animals.
- Those seeking change must recognize that they too are intrinsically part of the problem.
- We must abandon the human supremacy and human exceptionalism that informs our attitudes about the use of animals.
- We must make a solid commitment to embrace the medical advancements of the 21st century.
- We need a [Belmont Report](#) for animals.

-More-

“Decades of public outrage over unethical human research eventually led to the 1979 publication of *The Belmont Report*,” says Dr. Hope Ferdowsian, president and CEO of Phoenix Zones Initiative. “As is now the case with humans, animals should be afforded key protections. Animals are often targeted because of their vulnerabilities. As a result, they overwhelmingly bear the burdens of research despite their inability to provide informed consent or benefit from the research. We need a transformative paradigm shift to bring medical research into the 21st century. We need a Belmont Report for animals.”

Transforming Medical Research: Advancing Modern, Ethical Methods to Help People and Animals, can be seen in its entirety via our YouTube page and our Facebook page.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WFrU9DLB4E>

<https://www.facebook.com/PhoenixZones/videos/1093878178081241>

About Phoenix Zones Initiative

Phoenix Zones Initiative is a global nonprofit organization that advances the interconnected rights, health, and wellbeing of people, animals, and the planet through education, research, and advocacy. Led by physicians and a diverse team, Phoenix Zones Initiative focuses on widespread ethical and structural change to uplift the most vulnerable and marginalized, including children and animals, and provides resources to help others do the same. Follow Phoenix Zones Initiative on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#), and the [Phoenix Zones Initiative](#) website.

###

Media Note

For more information or interview opportunities, please reach out directly to Clark Curtis at clark@phoenixzonesinitiative.org or 704.808.1959.