



August 26, 2022  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**'CLEAR THE SHELTERS,' NBCUNIVERSAL LOCAL'S ANNUAL NATIONWIDE PET ADOPTION & DONATION CAMPAIGN, RETURNS FOR EIGHTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

**(August 26, 2022)**— [Clear The Shelters](#), NBCUniversal Local's annual nationwide pet adoption and donation campaign, is returning for the eighth consecutive year. As part of the initiative, NBC and Telemundo owned and affiliated stations across the U.S. and Puerto Rico are partnering with animal shelters and rescue services in their communities to promote pet adoption and raise funds to support animal welfare.

The Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA will be participating in the Clear the Shelters event from Friday, August 26 to Sunday, August 28. During that time, adult dog and cat adoption fees will be reduced to \$50. Each animal will be spayed/neutered, microchipped and up-to-date on vaccines.

"We currently have nearly 800 animals in our care whether they're at the shelter or in a foster home," said Angie Gunter, Chief Executive Officer of the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA. "We hope this event will encourage more people to visit the SPCA and make a shelter pet part of their family to not only give them a deserving home but to allow us to save even more animals."

Since its 2015 inception, *Clear The Shelters* has helped more than 700,000 pets find new homes. Last year's campaign resulted in more than 140,000 adoptions and raised more than \$500,000.

"We are pleased to present our eighth annual *Clear The Shelters* campaign to help shelters and rescues across the nation with their critical work of finding loving homes for the animals under their care, and inviting communities to donate funds to support their work," said Valari Staab, Chairman of NBCUniversal Local. "*Clear The Shelters* is a community-driven effort that counts on the support of so many, including our employees, shelter partners, our affiliate stations and our national sponsors, and thanks to them the campaign has become an important event."

The 2022 *Clear The Shelters* will again feature online donations through partners [Greater Good Charities](#), a global nonprofit, and [The Animal Rescue Site](#), which will host the fundraising and cover all transaction fees so that 100 percent of donations go directly to shelters and rescues in need. Online donations can be made to participating shelters or rescues during the campaign at [ClearTheSheltersFund.org](#), which is also accessible via [ClearTheShelters.com](#).

Virtual pet adoptions are also returning for the fourth consecutive campaign through partner [WeRescue](#). The WeRescue app enables users to browse for adoptable pets in their area by breed, gender, size and other factors using their smartphone. Users can also submit their adoption applications and ask questions directly to shelters through the app.

[Hill's Pet Nutrition](#), a global leader in science-based pet nutrition, is returning as a national sponsor for a fifth year in a row. Joining the campaign this year as a national sponsor is global animal health company [Zoetis](#), the maker of both Simparica Trio and Apoquel.

[The Dodo](#), the leading animal and pet brand, will serve as an exclusive media partner for the sixth campaign.

For more information on *Clear The Shelters*, including participating animal shelters and rescues, along with details on local events, visit [ClearTheShelters.com](#) and the Spanish-language site [DesocuparLosAlbergues.com](#).

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***About the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA:*** *The Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA is proud to have maintained the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County as a No Kill community, providing life-saving care to thousands of animals in the region. The mission of the SPCA is to advance the compassionate treatment of animals by providing sheltering, medical care and behavioral services for dogs and cats; promoting permanent, caring homes; and furthering education and outreach to place healthy animals in caring homes.*

**About *Clear The Shelters*:** *Clear The Shelters™ / Desocupar Los Albergues®* is an annual, nationwide pet adoption campaign that is spearheaded by NBCUniversal Local, a division of NBCUniversal. Every year, NBCUniversal Local's NBC and Telemundo owned stations, plus affiliated stations, partner with animal shelters and rescues in their communities to host *Clear The Shelters* events. NBCUniversal Local's *Clear The Shelters* campaign was inspired by a 2014 North Texas pet adoption event hosted by NBC 5 / KXAS and Telemundo 39 / KXTX and dozens of area shelters that resulted in the most adopted pets in one day for North Texas. Since 2015, NBCUniversal Local's *Clear The Shelters* pet adoption campaign has resulted in more than 700,000 pets finding new homes. Visit [ClearTheShelters.com](#) and [DesocuparLosAlbergues.com](#) for more information.

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