



BISSELL PET FOUNDATION™  
Until every pet has a home.

July 25, 2022

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **BISSELL Pet Foundation Fights Shelter Overcrowding by Reducing Adoption Fees Across the Country**

*Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA part of 250+ shelters participating in summer "Empty the Shelters" event*

**CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA (July 25, 2022)** — As our nation's shelters face unprecedented overcrowding, BISSELL Pet Foundation is doing its part to taking homeless pets from kennels to couches by sponsoring reduced adoption fees from July 25 – 31. The Summer National "Empty the Shelters" event will be hosted in more than 250 shelters in 42 states, including the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA.

During the event, the adoption fee for adult dogs and cats will be \$25 (some exclusions may apply.) All animals included in the promotion will be microchipped and spayed/neutered. The shelter is open for adoptions every day from 12-6 PM. No appointment is necessary.

"We are very excited to partner with BISSELL Pet Foundation to place more pets in homes," said Angie Gunter, Chief Executive Officer of the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA. "This is the perfect opportunity to give an adult dog or cat the home they deserve while creating space for another homeless pet in need."

BISSELL Pet Foundation's "Empty the Shelters" event is the largest funded adoption event in the country. With a goal of encouraging more families to choose adoption, this lifesaving effort has helped more than 96,000 pets find loving homes since 2016. "Empty the Shelters" is BISSELL Pet Foundation's largest program, partnering with a total of 443 animal welfare organizations in 47 states and Canada to reduce adoption fees.

“Shelters are calling me daily and BISSELL Pet Foundation is feeling the burden of overcrowding. With the euthanasia of homeless dogs up 22% in just the first quarter of 2022 alone, we knew we had to act quickly to help at-risk pets,” said Cathy Bissell, Founder of BISSELL Pet Foundation. “Empty the Shelters is the largest funded adoption event in the country, and by extending the event to three weeks, we can help meet the immediate need to save lives.”

Adoption is a lifetime commitment. BISSELL Pet Foundation and the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA urge families to do their research about the pet they are interested in adopting, as well as adoption requirements. For more information on adopting or donating to “Empty the Shelters,” visit [www.bissellpetfoundation.org/empty-the-shelters](http://www.bissellpetfoundation.org/empty-the-shelters) as well as [caspca.org](http://caspca.org).

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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 BISSELL Pet Foundation:**

BISSELL Pet Foundation is a charitable 501©(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to help reduce the number of animals in shelters through pet adoption, spay/neuter programs, microchipping and emergency support. Founded in 2011 by Cathy Bissell, BPF is an extension of her long-standing love for animals and commitment to their welfare. BPF has since partnered with more than 5,500 shelters and rescues across the U.S. and Canada to help pets find loving homes. The foundation is supported by generous donors and BISSELL Homecare, Inc where every purchase saves pets. To learn more, visit [www.bissellpetfoundation.org](http://www.bissellpetfoundation.org).

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