



BISSELL PET FOUNDATION™  
Until every pet has a home.

September 30, 2022

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **BISSELL Pet Foundation Announces Fall “Empty the Shelters”**

*Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA part of 280+ shelters participating in fall “Empty the Shelters” event*

**CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA (September 30, 2022)** — BISSELL Pet Foundation is doing its part to take homeless pets from kennels to couches by sponsoring reduced adoption fees from October 1 to October 8. The fall “Empty the Shelters” event will be hosted in more than 280 shelters in 42 states, including the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA.

During the event, the adoption fee for adult dogs and cats at the SPCA will be \$25 (some exclusions may apply.) All animals included in the promotion will be microchipped, spayed or neutered, and up-to-date on vaccines. 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. “Our kennels are full so we would love to open them up and be able to help more animals 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 118,000 pets find loving homes since 2016. “Empty the Shelters” is BISSELL Pet Foundation’s largest program, partnering with a total of 541 animal welfare organizations in 47 states and Canada to reduce adoption fees.

"It has been a challenging year for our nation's animal shelters. The devastating increase in owner surrenders has left thousands of socialized, house-trained and leash-trained pets desperate to find a home," said Cathy Bissell, Founder of BISSELL Pet Foundation. "Our fall 'Empty the Shelters' will support the adoption of thousands of pets across the country, helping shelters in this critical time. Opening your home to a shelter pet saves a life and creates space to give another pet a chance."

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 [caspc.org](http://caspc.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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