



BISSELL PET FOUNDATION™
Until every pet has a home.

December 1, 2022

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BISSELL Pet Foundation Brings Holiday Hope to Shelter Pets Across the Country

Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA joins 275+ shelters participating in "Empty the Shelters – Holiday Hope" event

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA (December 1, 2022) — BISSELL Pet Foundation, a national animal welfare organization dedicated to ending pet homelessness, is bringing hope to the nation's shelter pets this holiday season with its "Empty the Shelters – Holiday Hope" adoption event Dec. 1 – 11. BISSELL Pet Foundation sponsors reduced adoption fees of \$50 or less per cat or dog during each nationwide event. This event will be hosted in more than 275 shelters in 43 states, including the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA.

During the event, the adoption fee for adult dogs and cats at the SPCA will range from \$0 to \$50. The adopter will have the opportunity to spin the wheel in the shelter's lobby to determine if the adoption fee is \$0, \$10, \$25, or \$50. 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 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 and we want those animals to spend the holidays with their families instead of at the shelter."

BISSELL Pet Foundation's "Empty the Shelters" event is the largest funded adoption event in the country. This lifesaving event began in 2016 with a goal of encouraging more families to choose adoption. Nearly 160,000 pets have found loving homes since its inception. "Empty the

Shelters” is BISSELL Pet Foundation’s largest program, partnering with 560 animal welfare organizations in 47 states and Canada to reduce adoption fees.

"BISSELL Pet Foundation is in constant communication with our shelter partners across the country and they are struggling with unprecedented increases in owner surrenders and longer stays for pets," said Cathy Bissell, Founder of BISSELL Pet Foundation. "With so many great pets waiting in shelters, our ‘Empty the Shelters – Holiday Hope’ event is the perfect opportunity to save a life through adoption and create space to give another homeless pet a chance. If you can’t adopt, please consider fostering."

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 as well as caspca.org.

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.

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