



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BISSELL Pet Foundation and Dogtopia Team Up to "Empty the Shelters"

Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA part of 350+ shelters participating in the spring "Empty the Shelters" event

Charlottesville, VA (May 1, 2023) – [BISSELL Pet Foundation](#), a national animal welfare organization dedicated to ending pet homelessness, is excited to announce it will team up with [Dogtopia](#) for the foundation's first "Empty the Shelters" national adoption event of 2023. From May 1 to May 15, BISSELL Pet Foundation's Spring National "Empty the Shelters" will occur at more than 350 shelters in 45 states with pets available for adoption for just \$50 or less, including the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA.

During the event, the adoption fee for adult dogs and cats at the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA will be reduced to just \$25. All animals included in the event will be spayed or neutered, up to date on vaccines, and microchipped.

"We're excited for this opportunity to offer reduced adoption fees to members of the community who are ready to welcome a new pet into their lives," said Emily Swecker, Director of Development and Communications at the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA. "We are looking forward to finding homes for many of the homeless animals in our care."

Since the 2016 inception of BISSELL Pet Foundation's "Empty the Shelters," nearly 140,000 pets at 605 animal welfare organizations in 47 states and Canada have received second chances. An average of 1,000 shelter pets are adopted each day during each quarterly national event. Through this partnership and continued support, the foundation is looking forward to reaching more pets in more shelters and communities during this upcoming event.

"BISSELL Pet Foundation's "Empty the Shelters" is proven to make a lifesaving difference, and we are thrilled to team up with Dogtopia, who shares our vision to give every pet their best life," said Cathy Bissell, Founder of BISSELL Pet Foundation. "This is a very difficult time for

shelters across the country, with increasing owner surrenders due to the housing crisis and inflation as well as slowed adoption rates. With Dogtopia's partnership, we are hopeful more pets than ever will find homes during this national event."

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 caszca.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 lifesaving 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 crisis and disaster response. 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 5,700 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.