

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

Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit part of 350+ shelters participating in the holiday hope "Empty the Shelters" event

DEARBORN, MI. 11.30.23 —<u>BISSELL Pet Foundation</u>, a national animal welfare organization dedicated to ending pet homelessness, is excited to announce it will team up with <u>Dogtopia</u> for the foundation's first "Empty the Shelters" national adoption event of 2023. From December 1 to December 17, BISSELL Pet Foundation's Holiday Hope National "Empty the Shelters" event will occur at more than 350 shelters in 45 states with pets available for adoption for just \$50 or less, including Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit.

- Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit will participate December 1 17, 2023 at the MaryAnn Wright Animal Adoption and Education Center, located at 16121 Reckinger Road, Dearborn, MI 48126, offering \$25 adoption fees for adult cats, kittens and adult dogs over 20lbs.
- All interested adopters can find more details online at www.metrodetroitanimals.org.

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."

Friends for Animals has been participating in Empty the Shelters for a few years, with the most recent time period being September 17 – October 15, resulting in 153 animal adoptions.

"The Bissell Pet Foundation has been a vital and integral part of the animal welfare community, giving both animal welfare organizations and families, the opportunity to find their new family member. Because of their support, we have been able to create so many more "gotcha days," tail wags, purrs, and special bonds between people and pets. Thank you, Bissell Pet Foundation for all you do to help so many organizations like Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit. With their support, we will see more animals go into warm homes for the holidays," said President and CEO Cory Keller.

BISSELL Pet Foundation and Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit 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 <u>www.bissellpetfoundation.org/empty-the-shelters</u> as well as www.metrodetroitanimals.org

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.

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