

FRIENDS FOR ANIMALS OF METRO DETROIT Partners with BISSELL Pet Foundation to Reduces Adoption Fees

FRIENDS FOR ANIMALS OF METRO DETROIT joins 380+ shelters nationwide participating in "Empty the Shelters" reduced-fee adoption event

Dearborn, MI. April 25 —BISSELL Pet Foundation, a national animal welfare organization dedicated to ending pet homelessness, is prompting a national call for adoption once again this spring with its "Empty the Shelters" reduced-fee adoption event May 1 - 15. FRIENDS FOR ANIMALS OF METRO DETROIT will participate along with more than 380 shelters in 43 states. To help deserving shelter pets find loving homes, BISSELL Pet Foundation sponsors reduced adoption fees of \$50 or less per cat or dog during each nationwide event.

- FRIENDS FOR ANIMALS OF METRO DETROIT will participate May 1-15, at the MaryAnn Wright
- Animal Adoption and Education Center, located at 16121 Reckinger Road in Dearborn, MI 48126, offering \$25 adoptions for adult cats over six months and dogs over 20 lbs. and older than six months old.
- All interested adopters can find more details online at <u>metrodetroitanimals.org.</u>

"Our nation's animal shelters are facing a capacity crisis and need your help now. Adoptions have slowed while a surge in owner surrenders due to families facing economic and housing challenges has left tens of thousands of highly adoptable pets desperate to find homes," said Cathy Bissell, Founder of BISSELL Pet Foundation. "Our Spring National '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 lifesaving space to help another pet in need."

Friends for Animals has been involved with BISSELL Pet Foundation's "Empty the Shelters" for a couple years now and they love to participate more than once a year. They normally have a good week of at least six dogs and over 15 cats being adopted. Their shelter is currently over-capacity, and they need help making room for more animals to find homes.

"Friends for Animals is excited to participate in 'Empty the Shelters' again this year. It has come at a really good time for us, as we have been over-capacity with dogs, especially large breed dogs. We are seeing more and more dogs stay longer in shelters, which is extremely concerning. The Bissell Pet Foundation sponsoring reduced adoption fees allows us to focus on finding the best matches for people looking for a new family member, while helping us cover costs associated with the quality care we provide, which is on average \$900 per animal. We thank the Bissell Pet Foundation for all of their support."

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. More than 226, 000 pets have found loving homes since its inception. "Empty the Shelters" is BISSELL Pet Foundation's largest program, partnering with 742 animal welfare organizations in 49 states and Canada to reduce adoption fees.

BISSELL Pet Foundation and FRIENDS FOR ANIMALS OF METRO DETROIT urge families to research 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> and <u>https://www.metrodetroitanimals.org/</u>

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, vaccinations, 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 6,000 shelters and rescues across the U.S. and Canada to help pets find loving homes. The foundation is supported by generous donors and BISSELL Inc. where every purchase saves pets. To learn more, visit www.bissellpetfoundation.org.

About Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit:

Friends for Animals is a 501c3 organization and is located at 16121 Reckinger in Dearborn. Friends for Animals is dedicated to the rescue, protection, and adoption of companion animals in need, while inspiring the human-animal bond. Friends for Animals was founded in 1993 by volunteers who believed that homeless animals in our region deserve a second chance at life. Building on our strong sense of animal welfare, Friends for Animals has grown in the past 30 years to an organization of great impact in the companion animal welfare community. The organization helps find homes for approximately 2,500 dogs and cats each year.

Media Contact:

Brittany Schlacter | Marketing & PR Specialist | brittany.schlacter@bissell.com | 616.600.9470 Nova Zorok | FRIENDS FOR ANIMALS OF METRO DETROIT | Events & Communications Manager | mailto:nzorok@metrodetroitanmals.org| 313.943.2697 ext.1019