

Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit Joins BISSELL Pet Foundation to Bring Holiday Hope to Shelter Pets During Empty the Shelters™ in December

400+ shelters nationwide reduce adoption fees and find loving homes for pets

Dearborn, MI. November 25—BISSELL Pet Foundation, a national animal welfare organization dedicated to ending pet homelessness, is bringing holiday hope to homeless pets by prompting a national call for adoption with its Empty the Shelters™ reduced-fee adoption event Dec. 1-17. Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit will participate along with more than 400 shelters in 45 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 Dec. 1-17 at the MaryAnn Wright Animal Adoption and Education Center, located at 16121 Reckinger Road, Dearborn, MI 48126, offering \$50 for all dogs, except heritage breeds, and \$25 for cats.
- Monday & Tuesday: Closed; Wednesday Sunday, 12 p.m. 4 p.m. Walk-ins and same-day adoptions welcome; can also schedule a meet-and-greet or apply for an animal online
- All interested adopters can find more details online at metrodetroitanimals.org

"It has been an incredibly challenging year for saving lives, as our nation's shelters continue to take in more pets than they are adopting out. Tens of thousands of shelter pets—of all breeds, ages, and personalities—are desperately in need of homes," said Cathy Bissell, Founder of BISSELL Pet Foundation. "Empty the Shelters – Holiday Hope is more than an adoption event; it's a lifeline for shelter pets. Please visit your local participating shelter to adopt or foster a pet this holiday season."

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. Their shelter is currently overcapacity, and they need help making room for more animals to find homes. Last fall, 75 cats and 16 dogs were adopted.

"We are grateful to have this support from The Bissell Foundation, as it has been a year full of being over-capacity. These adoption specials provide incentives to the community to consider all the wonderful animals we have waiting for their second chance. If you have been considering adopting a new family member, please consider stopping into our shelter, as we can help you find the best match for your family," said Friends for Animals President and CEO Cory Keller.

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 300,000 pets have found loving homes since its inception. Empty the Shelters is BISSELL Pet Foundation's largest program, partnering with 800 animal welfare organizations in 48 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 metrodetroitanimals.org.

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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, vaccinations, 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 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.

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