



BISSELL PET FOUNDATION®
Until every pet has a home.

Rancho Coastal Humane Society Adopts Eleven Additional Pets During BISSELL Pet Foundation's "Empty the Shelters"

The country's largest funded adoption event found homes for thousands of shelter pets

Encinitas, CA. DATE— Rancho Coastal Humane Society announces six dogs, four cats, and one rabbit adoption during its participation in BISSELL Pet Foundation's Spring National "Empty the Shelters" event. From May 2 - 15, a total of 13,504 homeless pets were adopted from 280 shelters in 45 states. Since 2016, "Empty the Shelters" is the nation's largest funded adoption event, impacting the lives of more than 96,000 pets through adoption.

Rancho Coastal Humane Society participated May 2 - 15 and offered \$25 for pet adoptions including adult dogs, cats, and rabbits. This is in addition to puppies and kittens adopted during this time. 2022 marks the second year that Rancho Coastal Humane Society has participated in Empty the Shelters. As with the 2021 Empty the Shelters, Rancho Coastal Humane Society's goal was to find lifelong homes for newly arrived pets and others who have been at the shelter long term.

"Empty the Shelters" is BISSELL Pet Foundation's largest initiative and continues to grow each year to provide critical relief to overcrowded shelters. The nationwide event set a new record during this event with 280 participating shelters. BISSELL Pet Foundation provides grants for each adoption - \$100 per dog and \$50 per cat - allowing shelters to reduce adoption fees to \$25 or less. Pets must be spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped before being adopted out, an additional cost savings for the family, making the choice to adopt even more affordable.

"Right now, shelters are so full, and pets are experiencing longer stays. Our partners are reporting that 'Empty the Shelters' is driving even more adopters into their facilities. With the decline in transport, local adoptions have become our primary lifesaving tool," said Cathy Bissell, founder of BISSELL Pet Foundation. "This is an expensive program for our small foundation, but it is a proven success, and we can't turn our backs when we know we can save thousands of lives in one event."

The pets adopted from Rancho Coastal Humane Society during Empty the Shelters included a dog named Jicama, who had been at the shelter for one year and five months, a cat named Lorna, who had been abandoned by her original owner, and a rabbit named Putty, who had been transferred to Rancho Coastal Humane Society from a crowded rescue partner in Riverside County through the FOCAS (Friends of County Animal Shelters) program.

Rancho Coastal Humane Society President Judi Sanzo says, "We're very pleased with the results we had during Empty the Shelters 2022. This pet adoption drive came at the perfect time of the year. Spring is a time of renewal. Every day at Rancho Coastal Humane Society we renew our commitments to abandoned companion animals, our devoted volunteers, and the people who open their hearts and homes to new furry family members."

For more information on adopting or donating to "Empty the Shelters," visit www.bissellpetfoundation.org/empty-the-shelters as well as www.sdpets.org.

About BISSELL Pet Foundation:

BISSELL Pet Foundation is a charitable 501(c)(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 5,600 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 and make a donation, visit www.bissellpetfoundation.org.

About Rancho Coastal Humane Society

The two original programs when your Rancho Coastal Humane Society was founded in 1960 were Pet Adoption and Humane Education. These programs continue as the cornerstones of Rancho Coastal Humane Society. Since 1997 the Animal Safehouse Program has served as a safety net for the pets of domestic violence victims, veterans, seniors, active-duty military, and families in crisis. The Pet Assisted Therapy program takes trained therapy dogs to schools, colleges, libraries, veterans, and extended care facilities. The Community Pet Food Bank provides pet food and supplies to families in need, so no pet owner has to ask, "Who gets to eat today...you or me?" RCHS matches the needs of the pets with the desires of families. Adopting a pet is a lifetime commitment. Your Rancho Coastal Humane Society believes that "Every Animal Deserves a Tomorrow." ®

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