



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 8, 2019

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**Kent County Animal Shelter and Bissell Pet Foundations Expand  
Empty the Shelters Event  
Dog Adoption Fees Reduced All Week, All Fees Waived on Saturday**

**GRAND RAPIDS** –This is a great week to adopt a dog from the Kent County Animal Shelter (KCAS). KCAS and the Bissell Pet Foundation (BPF) are responding to the large number of adoptable dogs in the shelter by dramatically reducing adoption fees for adult dogs. From now until Friday, October 11, 2019, all adult dogs will be available for adoption for the reduced rate of \$25. The fee, which is normally \$147, includes licensing, vaccinations and spaying or neutering of the animal. On Saturday October 12, 2019, all fees will be waived. Saturday adopters must be preapproved. The fee reductions are being made possible through the generous support of BPF which has agreed to expand the Empty the Shelter support from one day to the entire week beginning immediately.

“Right now, potential adopters have a lot of great pets to choose from,” says Namiko Ota Novesky, Public Health Program Supervisor at KCAS. “When you combine the number of available pets with the reduced cost, now is the perfect time to adopt.”

People wishing to adopt an animal Monday – Friday could be approved and take their new pet home on the same day. Those wishing to adopt on Saturday will need to be pre-approved. To get pre-approved, people must come to the Kent County Animal Shelter located at 740 Fuller NE, Grand Rapids, MI. 49503. The shelter will do adoptions and accept applications during regular business hours; Monday through Thursday from 1:00PM until 7:00PM and on Friday from 9:00AM until 6:00PM. The deadline for applications for Saturday’s Empty the Shelters free adoption is 5:00PM Friday, October 11. Saturday adoptions will take place at KCAS from 10:00AM – 2:00PM.

To qualify, potential adopters must provide proof that any other animals in the home are licensed and up to date on vaccines. People should also be prepared to provide contact information for their current pet’s veterinarians.

“Cat lovers are not left out of this deal either,” says Sara Simmonds, Director of Environmental Health at the Kent County Health Department. “Adoption fees for adult cats and kittens have been waived since early summer.”

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KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 265 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and three satellite clinics located in Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit [www.accesskent.com/health](http://www.accesskent.com/health).