

PBC Animal Care & Control participates in nationwide adoption event July 22-24

Press Release <PressRelease@pbcgov.org>

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Animal Care & Control Partners with Best Friends Animal Society to Clear Shelters

Palm Beach County's Animal Care and Control (ACC) Division is partnering with Best Friends Animal Society to offer free dog and cat adoptions from July 22 to 24, 2022. In light of the current crisis in animal shelters all across the country, ACC and [Best Friends Animal Society](#) have joined together to create an event to encourage more people to adopt a pet and help clear the county's shelter.

Since shelters may exceed their capacities as they continue to fill up with adoptable pets during summer, Best Friends and its participating partners have put together the adoption event to address this urgent problem. More than 530 shelters, including ACC, will be participating by waiving fees or offering reduced fees.

Overcrowding has been a very serious problem at ACC for months, and it is getting worse as kitten season goes into full swing. While the shelter is faced daily with increasing numbers of dogs and cats in its care, adoptions are at an all-time low.

Rescue placement partners have been instrumental in helping to find homes, but they too are faced with overcrowding and are saturated with pets. At this point, the answer to reducing the shelter population is for public adoptions and fosters to increase. This will help relieve overcrowding and get dogs, cats and kittens placed into both temporary and permanent loving homes. For more information on the county's Healthy Home foster program, visit <https://youtu.be/OVQ2C3XKHSE>.

Recent data released by [Best Friends](#) showed that in 2021, U.S. shelters saw an 8% increase in animal intakes that pet adoptions couldn't keep pace with. ACC has seen a 65% increase in dog intakes and an 8% increase in cat intakes compared to this same time last year.

"Following the immense success of our National Adoption Weekend in May, which resulted in 4,529 lives saved, we couldn't wait to have a second National Adoption Weekend as soon as possible," said Julie Castle, CEO of the Best Friends Animal Society. "The summer months, and July in particular, are the highest intake months for animal shelters in America, so we really encourage anyone who's looking for a pet to adopt now."

ACC and Best Friends cite many benefits to adopting a pet, including:

- A one-stop (adoption) shop - Pets adopted from ACC are vaccinated, microchipped and spayed or neutered which saves time and costs.
- Adopters and pets gain lifetime partners - Shelters and animal welfare organizations will help throughout the life of the pet with helpful resources and information.
- At least two lives are saved – With an adoption, the life of the adopted pet is saved, and this opens up a spot at the shelter for another animal to be sheltered and put in a forever home.

Visit the county's website to find out more about adoptions, and check out the [Surf the Net About a Pet](#) (SNAP) page to view available pets that are ready to be taken home today. The Animal Care and Control adoption center is located at 7100 Belvedere Road, West Palm Beach.

Adoption Hours:

Monday – Friday	11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday	11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visit www.pbcgov.com/snap or call (561) 233-1272 for more information or to view pictures of adoptable animals.

About the Best Friends Network

The Best Friends Network is comprised of thousands of public and private shelters, rescue groups, spay/neuter organizations and other animal welfare organizations in all 50 states. It is a coalition committed to saving the lives of homeless cats and dogs through collaboration, information-sharing and implementation of proven lifesaving strategies. Partners support each other and inspire their own communities to increase saving the lives of dogs and cats across the country.

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