

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE of BOSTON



*****NEWS RELEASE*****

CONTACT:

Michael DeFina, Media Relations Officer

(617) 293-3530

mdefina@arlboston.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 11, 2018

Cat with Myriad of Medical Issues Seeking New Home

June is National Adopt a Shelter Cat Month

June is National Adopt a Shelter Cat Month, and the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) would particularly like to find a forever home for one amazing cat with a number of health concerns.

Rhade, a 10-year-old domestic shorthair, came to ARL when her previous owner was moving and presented with quite a few common and uncommon conditions.

Rhade's most noticeable issue is neurological, as she was born with the congenital abnormality called cerebellar hypoplasia. The condition affects her coordination and balance.

She also tested positive for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV), which was likely contracted via a bite from another infected cat. An offshoot of Rhade's FIV was swelling to her lip, commonly known as a rodent ulcer. A biopsy did not reveal any underlying issues, but her lip is permanently deformed.

Finally, Rhade has developed Horner's syndrome in her right eye. This condition is due to an unknown impairment to her sympathetic nervous system – which is responsible for the normal fight or flight reaction.

Despite all these issues, Rhade has persevered and does have a good quality of life. Rhade has responded well to all her treatments at ARL, however it's hard to know what her medical future holds, and whoever adopts her will have to monitor her closely and regular veterinary care will be vital.

As with any animal that comes through our doors, ARL's veterinary medicine staff have spent an enormous amount of time diagnosing and treating all of Rhade's health issues to ensure that any potential adopter will be as informed as possible before taking this sweet girl home.

****Rhade is available for video/still photography and ARL staff are available to answer any questions about Rhade, her medical concerns, or shelter medicine in general****

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2017, ARL served more than 18,000 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. We receive no government funding and rely solely on the generosity of individuals to support programs and services that help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at www.arlboston.org; and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

###