ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE of BOSTON



A Champion for Animals Since 1899





Gunner's Story

Nine-month-old Gunner was found alone and starved. More concerning, he was diagnosed with a heart defect that meant he was at risk for serious, life-threatening complications.

He underwent a costly, yet successful surgery that allowed for better blood flow from the heart. **This level of care simply would not be possible without your generosity.**

Thanks to you, he now is able to thrive in a loving home.



Our Mission

We are an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Gratitude is defined as the state of being grateful. What better way of acknowledging how appreciative we are of your support than by changing the name of our Annual Report to Gratitude Report. It is a reflection of how we feel, and an acknowledgement of the vital part you play. Truly, none of what we do would be possible without you.

A Letter from

the President

This is my first letter as President, and I am personally grateful and humbled to be able to lead an organization that has impacted so many animals and people. In 2019, you assisted over 20,000 animals. There are countless stories of the resiliency of animals, some of which are highlighted in the following pages.

When I started my journey in animal welfare as a veterinarian, I was privileged to be able to provide care to animals, and saw first-hand the interconnection between animals and people. The unconditional love changes you, provides comfort, and when the world around us is in chaos and disarray, the love of our pets calms us and provides support. As a supporter of ARL and of animal welfare, we are united in these feelings.

I am grateful that you chose to make a difference. You have provided kindness and care to animals who were sick, injured and abused. You were there to provide resources to mend their wounds and find them a forever home with love and compassion. Your generosity made the difference for so many. Thank you.

I have much gratitude, especially during these uncertain times. Although this Gratitude Report is a review of the triumphs in 2019, it would be a disservice to not acknowledge that the world we live in today is starkly different than in 2019. Reflecting on our work strengthens all we have to be grateful for. We have a long road ahead, as the pandemic has changed some of the ways that we are able to help. With your generous support, we can continue to adapt to the world around us and be prepared to leap into action when animals are in need.

I hope that you will read the stories enclosed and know that you are the reason they were given a second chance. You are truly a champion for animals!

With Gratitude,



Edward Schettino, *DVM, PhD President & CEO*

Mary Nee ARL President 2012 - 2020

Thank you for nearly eight years of dedicated service to ARL and animals in need. As the 8th President, your leadership transformed ARL and positioned the organization to be a leader in community-based programs aimed at keeping pets in homes and out of shelters. We are endlessly grateful for your contributions!

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A Note from the Board Chair, Walter Kenyon

As I reflect on my first year as the Board Chair for the Animal Rescue League of Boston, I am struck by immense feelings of thanks for everyone involved in this mission to save animals. Your backing in 2019 made the difference for thousands of animals, and that is a testament to your commitment and compassion.

I am thankful to the individual members of the Board, for their commitment to constantly improve animal welfare with their time, expertise, and resources. I am also deeply indebted to my predecessor, Malcolm McDonald for his continued support and commitment.

To our supporters, volunteers and fosters, staff, Board members, collaborators, and partners, thank you for another tremendous year of championing welfare for animals in need.

Walter Kenyon Chair, Board of Directors

Mission in Action

Because of your generosity, significant progress was made toward our five strategic goals.

Goal: Prevent animal cruelty and neglect by strengthening law and public policy, and increasing community awareness

PROGRESS:

- Tracked over 90 animal welfare bills and gave testimony on 11 proposed bills
- Trained more than 730 police and animal control officers on how to identify and report animal cruelty

Goal: Grow and refocus programs targeted towards those animals in greatest need and to the people who care for them

PROGRESS:

- Expanded our community-based wellness clinics to Dorchester, Roxbury, and Mattapan
- Launched the "Taming Tiny Tigers" initiative to prepare under-socialized, feral kittens for adoption
- Grew the Behavior Department by adding a full-time supervisor and implementing post-adoption follow-up calls for all behavior-related adoptions

Goal: Grow volunteer membership and attract and retain a well-trained, committed staff to support program growth and strategic goals.

PROGRESS:

- 763 dedicated volunteers contributed over 38,000 hours
- Promoted 11 staff members
- Goal: Increase financial resources to achieve greater impact for animals in need PROGRESS:
 - Raised more than \$3M in public support from almost 11,500 donors, an increase from 2018
 - Secured a \$100K capital grants to support the purchase of a new Spay Waggin'

Goal: Enhance the capacity of ARL infrastructure to ensure achievement of organization goals

PROGRESS:

- Secured permits and advanced plans for a new facility on the Dedham Campus
- Replaced two horse trailers with a new aluminum livestock trailer, funded by a generous donor
- Completed comprehensive external technology assessment and strategic technology plan



The Middleboro Dogs: One Year Later

In September 2019, a group of dogs was removed from a commercial breeding kennel. They were kept in cruel and dangerous conditions, without access to the outdoors or fresh air.

Amazingly, the dogs required little medical care. It was their emotional trauma that was shocking.

They had been prevented from interacting with humans and other dogs. As a result, they were terrified and unfamiliar with "normal" dog behavior including being on a leash, going outside, and even playing.

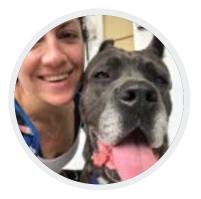
With your support, each dog was evaluated individually to develop a plan to build their confidence. We worked with the dogs for months to gain the necessary skills they needed to live a safe and happy life in an adopted home. This required enormous patience and many resources, which would not have been possible without your generosity.

To date, 11 of the dogs have been adopted into loving and understanding homes, and another is still receiving training to prepare her for adoption. Moana

Here are just a few of their success stories that you made possible:

CALLIE spent 78 days at the Dedham Animal Care & Adoption Center. She needed extensive training to properly walk on a leash, but eventually found comfort in plush dog toys. She found a loving home with owners who thoroughly understood her former life, and vowed to provide her with the comforts that every dog should experience.





MOANA spent 135 days in Dedham Animal Care & Adoption Center. She was incredibly shy and had a hard time attracting adopters. Now, she enjoys sunbathing on her new family's porch, and has learned to walk up and down the stairs confidently. Squeaky toys, pig ears, and Greenies are just a few of her favorite things.

ILHAN was with ARL for 73 days. She showed no interest in toys while in the shelter, but craved human attention and interaction. Now named Loretta, she loves to snuggle with her human and cat siblings, who don't mind her loud snoring. With her new confidence, she loves to play with plush toys, and her mom is continuing with training classes to encourage her confidence.

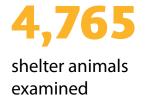




OLIVE stayed for 128 days at the Brewster Animal Care & Adoption Center. She cowered in response to being offered toys, and was scared of the wind on her walks. In her new home, she has learned to sit when she sees the leash, and is completely potty-trained. She is forever attached to her new mom, and will carry her mom's shoes into her crate and sleep with them.







1,806



shelter animal surgeries performed



animals helped in law enforcement cases **563**



animals removed from hoarding and overcrowding situations —ARL is advocating for laws and policies to address this important issue





owned pets received affordable wellness services, 34% had never seen a veterinarian previously





live release rate (adopted, returned to field/owner, or transferred)

678

animals with behavior challenges were matched with special adopters

1,540 %

Field Services rescued, assisted, and guided municipalities and individuals to help animals in distress

985



community cats assessed in 23 colonies

Hug Them Today, Help Them Tomorrow

The Anna Harris Smith Legacy Society[®] is an exceptional group of 98 supporters who are passionate about helping animals now and after their lifetime. Members have chosen to include the Animal Rescue League of Boston in their plans as a personal legacy of compassion.

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<u>[...</u>



Anna Harris Smith Legacy Society Spotlight: Miriam Eber

If Miriam Eber had her way, animals would rule the world. Her unrelenting love of animals has shaped her life and because of this love, she has chosen to give a legacy gift to the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) in her will.

Miriam has shared a deep and spiritual connection with many animals throughout her life. During childhood, the family Doberman was her loyal companion. While living in Israel, she developed a deep connection to an Arabian horse named Adi, who helped her through difficult times.

In 2000, she adopted a cat, Punkin, from the Brewster Animal Care & Adoption Center, and their bond was very strong. When Punkin was diagnosed with a heart condition and needed a companion, Miriam returned to adopt a kitten named Basia. And, when a third cat Bella came home and didn't get along with Basia, Miriam installed a gate that divided her house in two, so that Basia and Bella could live separately, in harmony.

Miriam also cares deeply for wildlife, and has a supply of peanuts to feed a wild turkey named Tallulah who visits almost every day. Her back yard has become a sanctuary for mallard and wood ducks, Cooper's Hawks, and Barred Owls, among other animals.

When asked where her philanthropic spirit comes from, she explains that it is simply in her spiritual makeup. When she is able to help, and a cause resonates with her, she will always offer support. Her motto is to 'pay it forward' whenever possible so that those who are less fortunate can receive help, and she says that ARL's work embodies that idea.

You don't have to do great things, but do small things with great love.

Miriam Eber's favorite quote

Miriam recognizes that she can make small changes to positively impact those in need. The gift she established in her will help ARL perpetuate her desire to give a voice to the voiceless, and to provide care to animals after she is no longer able. She believes that no gift is too small, since all support can make a difference.







opened their homes to provide sanctuary to stressed and scared animals while they waited to find their forever home.

Thank you to our volunteers and foster homes

Your dedication and commitment to helping animals in need is outstanding. You are the ambassadors who work with behaviorally-challenged animals and provide comfort to the most frightened cases. You muck horse stalls, change litter boxes, provide safe refuge, and perform countless other selfless acts of kindness every day. ARL wouldn't be what it is without you.

YOU are champions for animals.

Volunteer Spotlight: Billy Hubbard

Billy Hubbard's selfless commitment to animals most in need makes him an invaluable member of the ARL community – he is an adopter, foster parent, dog training class graduate, and volunteer!

Animals have been a constant presence in Billy's life. His parents filled their home with many shelter adoptees. He has fond memories of sleeping on the belly of their Saint Bernard, Maggie, and taking long walks with their dogs through Dedham.

Today, Billy, his wife, and their three children share their home with Reagan, the lab mix, Murphy, the German Shepherd, Lucy, the cat, and two fish. They recently added Charlie, a Saint Bernard, to their pack after fostering him during quarantine.

Despite a busy schedule, Billy finds time to volunteer whenever possible. Volunteering leaves Billy feeling fulfilled, as he knows his work directly contributes to positive outcomes for animals. While his average two-hour volunteer shift at ARL entails housekeeping tasks such as cleaning kennels, Billy most enjoys the opportunity to spend quality time with animals who have special behavioral needs. The shelter environment can be stressful, and spending time with an attentive volunteer

like Billy, can help a scared animal relax and show their true personality. Billy says that just spending time with a stressed and high-energy dog can change their personality for the better. And, in turn, Billy appreciates the emotional support and companionship he gains from animals.

It's this level of understanding that is crucial to Billy's role as a volunteer. Billy recommends that volunteers have a lot of patience, and know that they're responsible for much more than just walking dogs. He believes volunteers help to better understand the animals they work with so that they find the perfect home.



Eight-month-old Charlotte arrived at ARL emaciated and suffering from a severe leg fracture. **With support from generous donors like you,** she underwent a successful surgery and safely put weight on her frail frame.

However, Charlotte remained extremely fearful of new people and unfamiliar surroundings.

Thanks to you,

she spent time with an experienced foster who had other dogs to build her confidence. And, almost six months after her rescue, Charlotte was adopted by a family who continue to support her physical and mental recovery.

Summary Financial Statements

(In Thousands)

OPERATING REVENUES



Investment Return Appropriated for Operations \$3,332 (31.1%)



Service Fees & Other Income \$3,154 (29.4%)



Public Support **\$2,882** (26.9%)



Restricted Public Support Used for Operations \$772 (7.2%)



Income from Trusts **\$577** (5.4%)

TOTAL REVENUES: \$10,717

OPERATING EXPENSES



- Program Services:
 \$8,604 (80.3%)
- Fundraising:\$541 (5%)
- General and Administrative: \$1,565 (14.6%)

We continue to manage our resources prudently. We received a clean audit with no management findings from our independent auditors, AAFCPAs.

Audited financial statements are available on our website. You may also request a copy of these statements by emailing Jackie Smith at jsmith@arlboston.org

Public Income Used Tru



Thank you to our Champions Circle Members!

The Champions Circle is a group of more than **775 dedicated donors** who pledge their support in the form of recurring contributions. This reliable generosity provides animals with day-to-day care and the second chances they deserve all year long. And when disaster strikes, members are there to swiftly answer the call for help.

> To view a list of our Champions Circle Members, please visit arlboston.org/champions

His love of animals is rooted in their ability to provide a unique sense of joy, and that love moved him to begin supporting animal causes.

Champions

A cockapoo puppy named Pepper was David's introduction to the wonderful world of companion animals. Pepper was a constant sidekick for David and his brother when they David first learned about ARL from a friend who was fostering puppies for ARL. Despite already having two dogs and a young son, one of the puppies, Truffle, soon joined David's pack. To honor Truffle, David and his family joined the Champions Circle and committed to supporting animals every month.

In addition to supporting a cause close to his heart,

monthly giving was a practical choice for David. He says that giving monthly is just easier, especially when it comes to making the most of his giving budget. He also likes that his recurring donations benefit animals in need on a regular basis.

With his support, David hopes to help the local community and, of course, to find loving homes for homeless animals. His wish is that his support ensures that many more animals like Truffle find the loving homes they deserve.



Foundation for the Future: The Dedham Campus Plan

ARL founder Anna Harris Smith purchased land off of Pine Street in Dedham in 1907, and intended for it to be a country haven for working horses. For the past 113 years, ARL's Dedham campus has remained a sanctuary for animals and a resource for the community.

Because of you, ARL has been able to grow in response to the community's changing needs. As a result, ARL has planned additions to the Dedham campus that include a new multi-use/administrative building with training and event space, and a garage that will house ARL's mobile fleet (Spay Waggin' and Wellness Waggin').

At present, ARL's program and administrative staff are split between Boston, Dedham, and Carver, and a consolidated building will facilitate more seamless operations. Additionally, the training facility will support the current dog training program, as well as staff meetings, professional trainings, and donor functions. The plans have taken great care to preserve the historic legacy of the campus, as well as the existing animal graves of Pine Ridge Pet Cemetery

To learn more about this project, please contact Jessica Telemaque at jtelemaque@arlboston.org or (617) 226-5668



Tangee was brought to ARL last December, after she had been abandoned.

We discovered she was 19-years-old, roughly 96 in human years! After a quick check up, she was cleared for adoption, and in mere hours she was adopted.

With your help,

this sweet cat was home safely in time for the holidays, where she will be for the rest of her days.

Photo in circle: credit to Kim Tunnicliffe at WBZ NewsRadio

Trusts and Bequests

ARL is grateful to be named as a beneficiary of more than 20 trusts and to have received 22 bequest gifts from individuals who have left a legacy of compassion for animals.

Anna E. Oberlander Living Trust Aurele E. Thomas 2002 **Revocable Trust Dorothy Whitney** Charitable Trust Edgar A. Hultgren The Edmund and Mary **Comey Charitable** Foundation Emma L. Borden Trust Estate of Bonnie Lynn Turrentine Estate of Gladys Jean Lennox The Estate of Michael W. Lincoln Estate of Peter R. Tritsch Estate of Virginia Yeterian The Etta B. Goodstein Trust **Eugene B. Hamilton Trust Eugene Hamilton** Trust, Par. 8 The Farrell Trust **Florence Walsh Estate** Frank B. Thayer Fund G. Gorham Peters Charitable Trust **Gladys F. Wilde Trust** Hans J. Tiller Irrevocable Trust Harold & Eleanor **Brooks Trust** Janet E. Sanders Bequest Jeanette T. Sheldon Trust The Joan M. **McDonough Trust**

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Rescued as a stray, Maizel showed signs of recently giving birth, but her puppies were nowhere to be found. She was emaciated and dehydrated, and it was likely that she had been abandoned by the same person who kept her puppies.

After she recovered from the effects of neglect, Maizel required orthopedic surgery to repair a torn ACL, a surgery that would not have been possible without your generosity.

Eleven months after she was first rescued, she was adopted by her foster mom and is enjoying the joyful life of a loved pet.

President's Council

The President's Council is a group of more than 415 generous supporters who give \$1,000 or more annually to help animals in need. Their generosity provides the critical resources needed to care for animals where they belong, connect community resources, advocate for stronger laws, and raise awareness to prevent animal cruelty and neglect everywhere.

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Without your support, Gryffindor could have succumbed to his injuries. He was found inside a

dumpster, with a broken jaw that prevented him from eating.

You gave him the resources he needed for surgery to repair his jaw, and the months he would need to safely gain weight and heal.

Despite his ordeal, Gryffindor remained chatty and loving, and went to his forever home days after he became available. Thank you for saving Gryffindor!

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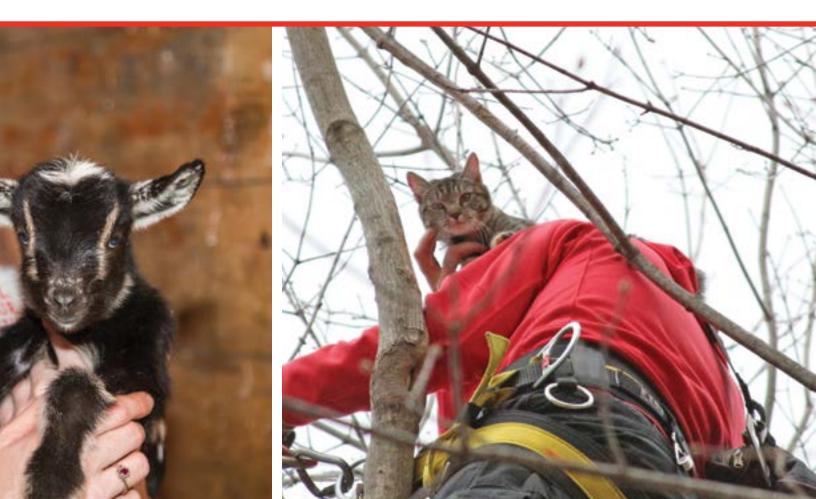
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