

# **ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE of BOSTON**



**\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE/PHOTO OP\*\*\***

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## **ARL to Hold Spay/Neuter and Pet Wellness Clinic in East Boston**

*ARL Spay Waggin' Returns to Boston after a Decade*

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) will unveil its brand new Spay Waggin' during a special spay/neuter and pet wellness clinic in East Boston, bringing expanded high-quality and accessible veterinary services to this historically underserved community.

### **Media Availability**

**When: Thursday, September 3 @ 9:15 AM**

**Where: Shaw's parking lot – 246 Border St., East Boston 02128**

The mobile clinic will be held in collaboration with the Massachusetts Animal Fund, which provides eligible Massachusetts pet owners with spay/neuter vouchers to cover the cost of surgery and associated services, such as vaccinations.

ARL will be providing free spay/neuter services for more than 20 animals, whose owners have been on the Boston waiting list for services for six months or more due to both demand and COVID-19-related restrictions.

ARL's Wellness Waggin' will also be on-site to provide low-cost basic and preventive veterinary care for at least an additional 20 animals whose owners were referred by community partner Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD)'s East Boston location.

The East Boston Shaw's location also hosted a pet food and supplies drive during the week leading up to the clinic. ARL will dispense the pet food and supplies collected to the day's clients via the Transport Waggin'.

For the estimated 16,000 pets and 40,000 residents living in East Boston, pet resources are extremely limited, with just one veterinary clinic and one pet supply store in the immediate area. By establishing a monthly Spay Waggin' location in the community beginning with this September clinic, and by adding ABCD's East Boston location as a weekly location for the Wellness Waggin' beginning in 2021. ARL will significantly increase East Boston residents' access to basic veterinary care and spay/neuter.

"ARL is excited and humbled to be able to provide these essential services to pet owners in East Boston," said **Dr. Edward Schettino, ARL President and CEO**. "East Boston was identified as an area of great need, which was further compounded by COVID-19. ARL's new Spay Waggin' will join the Wellness Waggin' to increase our capacity to help, and our continued partnership with ABCD will further allow ARL to broaden its reach in this great community."

Since 2000, ARL's Spay Waggin' program has served the South Shore, South Coast, and Cape Cod region, and has performed well over 60,000 spay/neuter surgeries during operation. The brand new Spay Waggin' is the third unit in the program's history, and is a state-of-the-art veterinary clinic.

The Spay Waggin' joins ARL's Wellness Waggin' and Transport Waggin' as ARL continues to expand its comprehensive community programs approach to help alleviate barriers to care, such as cost and lack of transportation, that prevent many pet owners from accessing basic veterinary care.

#### **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 2019, ARL served more than 20,000 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding (with the exception of limited COVID-19 relief funding) and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at; and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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