

A champion for animals

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## ARL's Keep Pets S.A.F.E. Program Maintains Steady Demand

ARL seeks donations to fulfill ongoing demand for services

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) continues to focus on ways to keep pets out of shelters and in homes with their families where they belong, particularly during a time of significant economic downturn, and a large component of this effort continues to be the organization's Keep Pets S.A.F.E. (Serving Animals Facing Emergencies) program.

In 2020, ARL realigned efforts and expanded pet support services by creating Keep Pets S.A.F.E. and through the innovative program, ARL has been able to offer delivery of pet food and essential pet supplies, emergency veterinary needs, as well as temporary emergency pet sheltering to aid those experiencing housing instability or imminent risk of homelessness.

The program continues to see steady demand, and in 2022, ARL delivered more than 186,000 nutritious meals to pets in Eastern Massachusetts, and has delivered more than 500,000 pet meals since the program's inception.

Additionally, 43 animals have been temporarily sheltered through the program, spending nearly 1,000 combined days in the care of ARL's vast foster care network.

ARL continues to rely on individuals to contribute for the ongoing success of the program through financial donations, or by donating dry or wet dog and cat food, and given the ongoing

need and steady demand of the service, ARL is seeking additional donations to fulfill the need as we enter 2023.

"ARL faced a pivotal moment during a time of crisis and uncertainty, would we refocus and adapt, responding to the pets and people that rely on us, or would we retreat, and wait out the unknown," stated **ARL President and CEO Dr. Edward Schettino**. "We took swift action to leverage our programs to support communities in new and innovative ways, pushing our boundaries, and reimagining the future of animal welfare."

To see if you qualify for the Keep Pets S.A.F.E. program, log onto <u>arlboston.org/safe</u>, and to find out how to donate towards the program, log onto <u>arlboston.org/donate</u>.

## 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 2021, ARL served over 23,000 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 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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