

**ANIMAL  
RESCUE  
LEAGUE  
of BOSTON**



*A champion for animals*

**CONTACT:**

Mike DeFina, Media Relations Manager

(617) 293-3530

[mdefin@arlboston.org](mailto:mdefin@arlboston.org)

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## **ARL Tops 400 for Overcrowding Animal Intake in 2023**

*Overcrowding animals include cats, guinea pigs, rabbits*

Overcrowding continues to be an area of emphasis for the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) in 2023, and this past week the organization took in more than two dozen cats, and nearly two dozen guinea pigs from three separate situations. ARL has now taken in more than 400 animals from overcrowding situations in 2023, more than double the overcrowding intake from 2022.

Traditionally overcrowding typically involved cats or dogs, however in 2023, ARL has also tackled situations involving guinea pigs and rabbits.

The majority of the animals are being cared for at ARL's Boston location and we invite members of the media to see some of these animals and to learn more about these situations.

### **Media Availability**

**When: Tuesday, October 3, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Where: ARL's Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center, 10 Chandler St., Boston**

While some may associate overcrowding with neglect, these animals were all well cared for and the common issues that led to these situations were a lack of spay/neuter, or incorrectly sexed animals purchased from pet stores.

The cats from situations in Norfolk and Worcester counties were transferred to ARL's Dedham and Boston Animal Care and Adoption Centers and have received thorough veterinary exams. While the cats are overall in good health, a number of the animals are recovering from upper respiratory infections, a common byproduct of overcrowding. Additionally, some of the cats are shy and undersocialized and will require their new families to have patience when allowing the animals to settle into their new homes.

The recent intake of guinea pigs are part of an ongoing operation between ARL and the former owner of the animals. This particular situation was the result of incorrectly sexed guinea pigs being purchased from an out-of-state pet store.

All of these animals are doing well, and while some are available for adoption, others will require ongoing care before finding their forever homes.

Taking in such a large and sudden influx of animals is a daunting task, however, ARL has the experience and expertise to provide the care these animals need, and reminds the public that if you or someone you know is overwhelmed by having too many animals in their home, there is help available.

ARL has cared for over 400 animals from overcrowding situations so far in 2023, and the organization regularly receives requests for assistance from caretakers with too many animals in the home. If you or someone you know is looking for support for spay/neuter services or to rehome cats, you can contact local animal control, or ARL's [Field Services Department](#) for assistance.

ARL approaches every overcrowding situation with respect, compassion, and a staunch commitment to ensuring the health and safety of the animals involved, as well as their caretakers.

For photos of some of these animals click the Dropbox link below:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/c8otgpn6yqu0kdkwllttm/h?rlkey=cykipgonkv53sgfomkzlp0olv&dl=0>

#### **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 2022, ARL served 20,601 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 [arlboston.org](http://arlboston.org); and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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