

ANIMAL
RESCUE
LEAGUE
of BOSTON



125 Years
**of Being an
Unwavering
Champion for
Animals in Need**

The Animal Rescue League of Boston's "reason for being" dates back to our founding in 1899 when Anna Harris Smith, a social worker from Dorchester, MA, took action when she saw both the cruel mistreatment of Boston's working horses, and the number of stray and homeless animals living on the streets.

ARL's present and future are still rooted in Anna Harris Smith's original vision that animals remain safe and healthy — out of shelters, and in the homes and communities where they live.



Learn more at
arlboston.org/125
or scan the QR code

1899



Animal Rescue League of Boston founded by **Anna Harris Smith**, and incorporated on March 13.

First Animal Care & Adoption Center and veterinary outpatient clinic, opens on Carver Street in Boston.

1907

Chamberlain Farm in Dedham purchased by Anna Harris Smith and renamed **Pine Ridge Home of Rest for Horses**.

1912



First **motorized animal ambulance** put into service.

1913



First **Humane Law Enforcement** agents begin investigations of the treatment of Boston's working horses, with assistance from **Field Services** agents.

1921

Expanded services, and dedicated animal care agents to **Cape Cod**.

1934

The Massachusetts Department of Public Safety includes ARL Humane Officers as **Special State Police Officers**.

1956



Moved to 10 Chandler Street in Boston, current location of **Boston Animal Care & Adoption Center** and **Boston Veterinary Care**.

First Cape Cod Animal Care & Adoption Center opened in **Provincetown**.

CONTINUED ON BACK

1967



Provincetown location moved to East Brewster, current location of **Cape Cod Animal Care & Adoption Center**.

1980s

Volunteer Engagement department established.

1985



Dedham Animal Care & Adoption Center opened.

2000



Spay Waggin', mobile spay/neuter vehicle, begins serving dog and cat owners in Eastern MA, Cape Cod, and Martha's Vineyard.

Behavior & Enrichment department established.

2016

Animal Advocacy department established.

2019



Wellness Waggin', a mobile low-cost veterinary care vehicle, began serving pet owners in Boston, in partnership with Action for Boston Community Development.

2020

Keep Pets S.A.F.E. (Supporting Animals & Families Everyday) program launched to provide food, supplies, temporary housing, and primary veterinary care to pets in our community.

2021



Foundation for the Future secured with a new building on our Dedham campus that houses Administrative offices, Mobile Veterinary vehicles, and Education & Training Center.

2023



Recognized with a **Classy Award for Social Innovation** for community partnerships and social good leading to social change.

2024



Over **6.2 million** animals helped since 1899!

Everyone has an ARL story!

Share yours and tag us on social media with #ARL125 or submit at arl.boston/your-ARL125-story

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