

A champion for animals

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ARL Rescues Community Cat and Kittens from New Bedford Restaurant Ceiling

Community cats savvy at finding warm and safe spaces

This past week the Animal Rescue League of Boston's (ARL) Field Services Department rescued a mom and neonatal kittens who found themselves in a safe but precarious place – the ceiling of a New Bedford restaurant.

ARL has not received permission from the establishment and will be omitting the name of the restaurant.

According to staff and a local community cat feeder, the mom cat had shown up a couple of weeks earlier, however, concern began to grow once staff started to hear kittens mewing. Due to the concern, the establishment contacted ARL.

Once on-scene, ARL Field Services agents were able to spot the kittens through a space between walls and a hole in the ceiling. With one agent acting as a spotter, the second agent was able to reach into the space to scoop up the four neonatal kittens, and safely secure them for transport. Once secured, agents worked to capture the mom cat by luring her with food and kittens sounds, but while she came near, she wouldn't come close enough to trap.

Agents placed a humane trap in the ceiling space, and transported the kittens to ARL's Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center for veterinary care and treatment. Staff at the restaurant reported the mom cat went into the trap at around 11 p.m., and agents returned the next day to pick up the mom cat, transporting her to Boston to be reunited with her kittens.

The cat family has been placed into foster care to allow the mom cat a quiet environment to care for her kittens. At just three-weeks-old, the kittens need time before they can be weened from their mother and find forever homes. The mom cat will be spayed and will also be made available for adoption in the near future.

Community cats are incredibly resilient, and have a knack to find shelter for themselves and their offspring. However, kittens born this time of year are incredibly vulnerable to the elements and other potential dangers and ARL urges the public that if a cat with offspring are discovered, to contact ARL Field Services for assistance.

ARL Field Services can be reached by calling (617) 426-9170 x563.

For photos of the mom and kittens, please click the Dropbox link below:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/31te20dy4b48abbks5kds/h?rlkey=qugr7rz0hoiadf8xqcgzky7x 6&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 2023, ARL served 20,964 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 <u>arlboston.org</u>; and be sure to follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>.

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