











CONTACT: Mike DeFina, Media Relations Manager (617) 293-3530 mdefina@arlboston.org

For Release on: April 8, 2025

ARL Breaking Ground on State-of-the-Art Boston Animal Care & **Adoption Center**

New facility to increase ARL's ability to provide critical services

Today, the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is excited to break ground on its new Animal Care & Adoption Center in Boston, located in the South End neighborhood ARL has called home since 1956.

The groundbreaking marks the organization's reinvestment in the City of Boston and will expand ARL's ability to provide critical services that keep pets and people together. ARL invites members of the media to share this momentous occasion, see renderings of the new building and learn more about what the new facility will provide.

Media Availability

When: Tuesday, April 8 @ 5 P.M.

Where: ARL's Boston Animal Care & Adoption Center, 10 Chandler St., Boston Interview Opportunities: ARL President & CEO and Board of Directors; Jonathan Garland, President & Founder of JGE Architecture + Design; Sarah Boman, Principal with Animal Arts; Robert Baldwin, QPD Managing Principal

While a fixture in Boston's South End for nearly seven decades, the current facility no longer meets the standard of care our animals deserve and severely limits the organization's ability to evolve and adapt to the needs of animals and pet owners – not only today, but for decades into the future.

The new state-of-the-art, three-story facility will enable ARL to provide animals with the highest standards of care to help them heal and thrive, remain accessible with a central location near public transit, and cement ARL's role as the leading resource for pets and pet owners within the City of Boston. The new building will feature:

- An Animal Care & Adoption Center
- Shelter & Community Veterinary Hospital
- A hub of support services for pet owner services
- Boston Veterinary Care, ARL's outpatient veterinary clinic
- A center for dog training classes
- Flagship location for ARL's Humane Education Program
- Infrastructure for ARL to adapt to the current and future needs of animals and pet owners

Construction of the approximately \$48 million facility is slated to begin in late spring 2025, with completion expected in 2026. Importantly, there will be no disruption to ARL's services during construction, as the existing Animal Care and Adoption Center will remain fully operational.

The exterior design of the new facility, created by Boston-based JGE Architecture + Design (JGE), will seamlessly blend with the South End's distinctive architecture. Animal Arts, a Colorado-based firm dedicated to the design of animal care facilities, is the Architect of Record for the project and is working with ARL to ensure that every aspect of this world-class facility aligns with the organization's mission to be an unwavering champion for animals in need. As Construction Managers, Commodore Builders is overseeing every phase of the project — from preconstruction planning to on-site execution — to ensure a seamless and efficient build.

"Our new facility isn't just a building; it's a symbol for our commitment to animals and the people who love them," stated **ARL President and CEO Dr. Edward Schettino**. "The new, world-class Animal Care & Adoption Center will provide animals with the highest standards of care for generations."

"Designing a facility that honors ARL's deep roots in the South End while supporting its critical mission was a responsibility we embraced wholeheartedly," said **JGE President and Founder Jonathan Garland**. "Our goal was to create an exterior that feels both timeless and forward-looking—one that integrates seamlessly with the neighborhood's historic charm while providing a welcoming, modern space for animals and the people who care for them."

"The Animal Arts team is excited to see ARL's dream of a facility that reflects their commitment to animal welfare come to life and we look forward to seeing the new building, and all the services it will house, strengthen ARL's support for Boston's animals and their human caretakers," said **Sarah Boman, Principal with Animal Arts**. "We are honored to play a role this historic moment for ARL."

"The work that the Animal Rescue League does in helping animals in need is awe-inspiring, and we are honored to be part of such a special project with them," said **Commodore Builders Project Executive Paul Maneen**.

ARL would additionally like to thank all of its internal and external partners including ARL's Foundation for the Future Steering Committee, The Strategy Group, QPD, the City of Boston, the South End Landmark District Commission, among many others, who helped the organization make this vision a reality.

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

Pets are family. This belief is at the heart of everything we do at the Animal Rescue League of Boston. ARL is the first female-founded animal welfare organization in Massachusetts and is proud to carry on a legacy of kindness and compassion, helping more than 20,000 animals annually since 1899. Recognized for innovative, awardwinning programs that go beyond sheltering, ARL addresses the root causes of the issues facing animals and the people who love them. By partnering with communities, ARL helps animals heal and thrive, keeps pets and people together, and protects animals from harm. Because there is no government funding for this important work, animals must rely on people like you to get the care they need, when they need it most, 365 days a year. For more information, visit arlboston.org and follow ARL on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

ABOUT ANIMAL ARTS

Animal Arts has a national and international reputation for designing award-winning animal care facilities. Creating environments to reduce stress, promote healing, and enhance well-being to increase adoptions, shorten lengths of stay, and improve the lives of animals is at the heart of their mission. They have designed assistance dog campuses, daycare facilities, animal hospitals, and numerous animal shelters across the nation and beyond. The firm provides services beginning with needs assessments and programming through full construction documents and construction administration. To learn more, visit animalarts.com and follow Animal Arts on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

ABOUT JGE ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

JGE Architecture + Design is a Boston-based 100% minority-owned ARCHITECTURE and INTERIOR DESIGN firm with a comprehensive portfolio comprised of multi-family housing, mixed-use development, academic, life sciences, commercial, and university projects. Every project presents a uniquely different client team, programmatic goal, budgetary constraint, and regulatory approval process. JGE appreciates design's profound impact on our communities, so they work collaboratively with clients, design teams, and stakeholders to develop innovative solutions to complex challenges. They deliver buildings that capture the spirit of their surroundings while also emphasizing their own unique identities. For more information, visit <u>jgarlandenterprises.com</u> and follow JGE on <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u>.

ABOUT COMMODORE BUILDERS

Commodore Builders is a veteran-owned, New England-based construction management firm on a mission to make the construction process easy for our clients and partners. The firm's work is about more than excellent results; The Commodore team builds trusting relationships that last beyond project turnover. Their expertise spans the institutional, life sciences, corporate interior, commercial, and public markets.