

**ANIMAL
RESCUE
LEAGUE
of BOSTON**



CONTACT:

Mike DeFina, Media Relations Manager

(617) 293-3530

mdefin@arlbboston.org

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**ARL's Keep Pets S.A.F.E. Program Celebrates Five-Year Anniversary,
One-Millionth Pet Meal Delivered**

Program assists pet owners in need, helps keep people and pets together

Today, the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is celebrating the fifth anniversary of Keep Pets S.A.F.E. (Supporting Animals and Families Everyday), a program that provides numerous services to pet owners in need throughout Boston, and plays a major role in the organization's focus to keep pets out of shelters, and in homes with the people who love them.

The inception of the Keep Pets S.A.F.E. occurred during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic. Although ARL's shelter doors were shuttered, the organization knew it needed to continue to be a resource for the community as there would be pet owners in the coming weeks and months who would be in dire need of assistance.

Keep Pets S.A.F.E. delivers pet food and essential supplies to clients' homes and partner-supported community housing, and the program also inspired the creation of ARL's Temporary Housing Initiative, which offers short-term care for pets due to unexpected life circumstances.

Since 2020, the Keep Pets S.A.F.E. program has served 5,000 pets and families, delivering one million pet meals. Nearly 100 delivery and pet wellness events at community housing properties have served over 1,500 pets and people, and 82 animals have been cared for through ARL's Temporary Housing Initiative.

"When the world shut down, ARL went to work to find solutions to help pet owners in need and ensure that pets and people would stay together," stated ARL President and CEO Dr. Edward Schettino. "While extremely proud of the impact that Keep Pets S.A.F.E. has had over the past

five years, ARL realizes that when people struggle pets struggle, and we remain committed to these types of programs that keep pets in homes and out of shelters.”

Although the inception of the program derived during the pandemic, the demand for these programs over the past five years have not waned, in fact, they have drastically increased. Requests for Keep Pets S.A.F.E. have increased 100 percent since 2020, and while fulfilling as many as possible, ARL is nearing capacity to be able to do so.

Through food drives and generous donations, ARL is able to maintain the program’s current level of service, however, the organization urges anyone who wishes to support this and other community-related programs to visit arlboston.org for more information.

For photos of the SAFE program, click the Dropbox link below:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/whfp8icwgxr0b3xm3d75/AEM_-0AT0sdA2PCR-sRCft0?rlkey=5zwmo54uy6y7vpiu3btpta0rk&st=akkp859&dl=0

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, award-winning 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](#).

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