

2024 GRATITUDE REPORT

ANIMAL
RESCUE
LEAGUE
of BOSTON



JULY'S STORY

July, a 17-year-old cat, found her family through ARL ten years ago. Thanks to kind supporters like you, she didn't just find a home—she found a lifetime of love and companionship.

For over a decade, July has been a cherished companion, bringing comfort and joy to her family every single day. Her story is a powerful reminder that when you give to ARL, you're not just helping an animal in the moment—you're changing their life, and the lives of their family.

**From all of us at ARL,
and from animals like
July whose lives you've
transformed, thank you
for your generosity.
You're making a difference
—moment by moment,
lifetime by lifetime.**





About Us

Pets are family. This belief is at the heart of everything we do at the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

We are the first female-founded animal welfare organization in Massachusetts and are proud to carry on a legacy of kindness and compassion, helping more than 6 million animals since 1899.

Recognized for our innovative, award-winning programs that go beyond sheltering, we address the root causes of the issues facing animals and the people who love them. By partnering with communities, we help animals heal and thrive, keep pets and people together, and protect 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.

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A Letter from the President & CEO

Since our founding 126 years ago, the needs of animals and our communities have constantly changed, and each year we face new and sometimes unexpected challenges. 2024 was no exception, and we saw first-hand that when people struggle, pets struggle, too.

Families already struggling with the rising cost of living and a housing crisis saw the cost of veterinary care here in Massachusetts growing to the highest in the entire nation. With little to no support, more people than ever turned to ARL for help keeping their beloved pets at home with their family.

So, we did what ARL does best – we pushed our boundaries and expanded our partnerships with communities and leading human service organizations, so we can do everything we can to keep pets in homes with the people who love them.

From pet food and supplies, to affordable care, to temporary pet housing, and so much more, we are answering the call for help so that pets can stay where they belong – with their families and out of shelters.

But this important work is not possible without you.

Thank you for being there for ARL and helping us grow, innovate, and adapt. With your steadfast support, over 20,000 animals were helped in 2024.

I hope you will read the inspiring animal stories that follow and know that you are the reason they were possible. I am truly grateful for your continued support as we remain a vital resource for pets and people.

With Gratitude,

Edward Schettino, DVM, PhD
President & CEO

2024 Board of Directors

Heather Ridill
Chair

Rod Macdonald
Vice Chair

Renee Knilans
Treasurer

William Whelan
Secretary

Edward Bradstreet

Dr. David McGrath

Dr. Cynthia Kettyle

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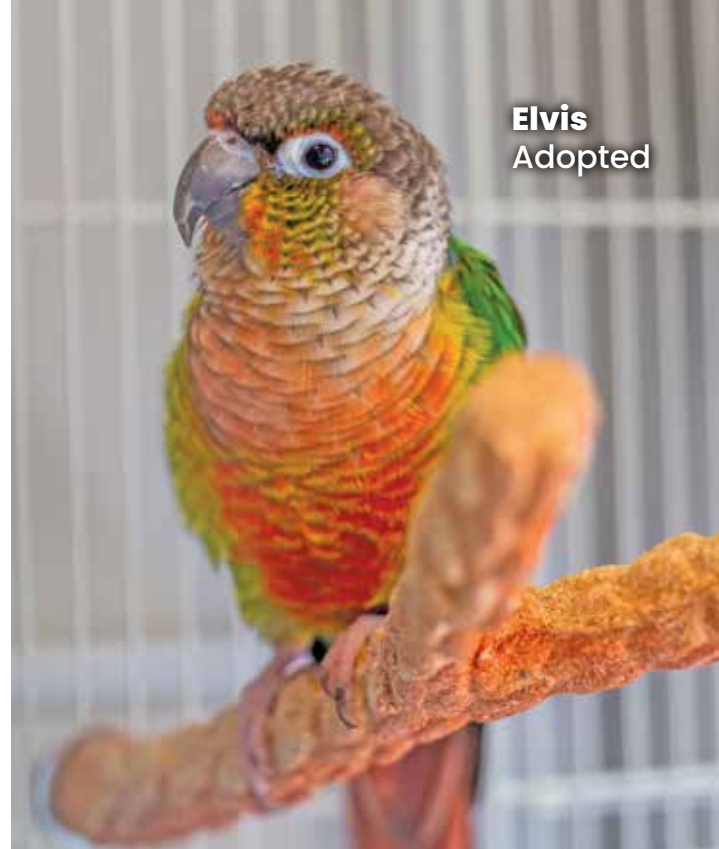
Nadine Pellegrini, Esq.

Laura L'Abbe

Alisa Plazonja

José Rodriguez-Villalobos

Dr. Stephen Spiegelberg



Leadership Circle

Anonymous

Consie Berghausen

Dr. Nancy Blum

Katie Brennan Kane

Barbara Burg & Priscilla Golding

Lisa A. Clifton

Craig Davis

Alison Erbig

Grace Fey

Tony Guthrie

Gabby Hanna

Brian Hyde

Christine Kromer

Connie Lacaillade

Anne-Marie Litchfield

Allegra Manacher

Allison Mankivsky

Randy Mason

Debra & Michael McAleer

Malcolm McDonald

Kathleen McQuiggan

Margo & Kevin Mercer

Avi Nelson

Arthur & Paula Rabe

Patricia Regan

Park Ridill

Kim Roderiques

Sydney B. Rosen

Denise Saltojanes

William Schawbel

Jessica Thomas

Laura Tomasetti

Jessica Tubman

Jane Urban

Louise & Kurt Wulff



With your support, significant progress was made towards our ambitious five-year strategic plan to help animals and the people who love them.

Goal 1: Provide high-quality care in our Animal Care & Adoption Centers

Provide animals with the highest standards of care to help them heal and thrive in their new homes.

Progress in 2024:

- Found loving homes for 3,518 animals; 644 received extra behavioral support
- Provided 6,300 veterinary exams and surgeries to shelter animals
- Helped 1,181 community cats (cats that live outdoors), a 32% increase from 2023

Goal 2: Support animal health with our professional services

Advance pet health and well-being through exceptional veterinary care and dog training.

Progress in 2024:

- Trained 871 dogs with 20% more course offerings including shorter workshops focusing on common challenges pet owners face in daily life
- Provided 2,122 animals with routine and life-saving care at Boston Veterinary Care (BVC)

Goal 3: Keep pets and people together

Empower families and help more pets stay in their homes by expanding access to innovative community services, including low-cost veterinary care, temporary pet housing, and pet food.

Progress in 2024:

- Provided \$6.7M worth of veterinary care to the community, including 4,700 low-cost spay/neuter surgeries and 3,770 low-cost veterinary wellness exams
- Saw a 24% increase in temporary housing clients, with 42 pets placed into temporary housing while their owners addressed housing and health needs
- Provided 255,194 pet meals to the community, a 100% increase since inception in 2020

Goal 4: Improve the lives of animals

Lead the way for animal welfare by advancing laws and policies that benefit animals, providing training for local and state police and animal control officers, and creating the next generation of compassionate animal advocates through humane education opportunities for youth.

Progress in 2024:

- Played a key role in passing several bills including: regulating pet daycare and boarding facilities, prohibiting the sale of puppies and kittens under 8 weeks old, and making Massachusetts the fourth state to ban cat declawing
- Assisted 1,300 animals by investigating cruelty, abuse, and neglect
- Provided 13 training sessions for 700 animal welfare professionals
- Welcomed 216 youth at Humane Education events, an 18% increase from 2023

Goal 5: Invest in our people

Ensure ARL is a great place to work and volunteer by meeting high satisfaction standards and advancing diversity, equity, accessibility, inclusion, and justice within our organization and the communities we serve.

Progress in 2024:

- Promoted 12 employees
- Maintained an 86% volunteer satisfaction rate
- Established the P.E.T. (Paws-itive Engagement Team), an employee engagement group that works together to create rewarding initiatives across ARL

Goal 6: Invest in our infrastructure

Enhance the capacity of ARL's facilities to respond to the current and future needs of animals and pet owners in our community.

Progress in 2024:

- ARL's Board of Directors voted to rebuild the Boston Animal Care & Adoption Center and Boston Veterinary Care (BVC) at our current location in the South End. The new facility will increase our capacity to help even more pets and animals in need, transforming how we care for animals in Boston

*Rendering of ARL's
future Boston facility*



**Your
2024
Support
in Action**

You helped 20,230 animals!

Thanks to you,

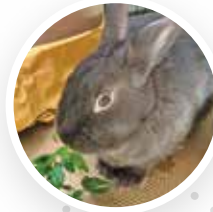
3,518

animals found
loving homes



2,356
CATS

802
DOGS



347
SMALL
ANIMALS

13
LIVESTOCK
ANIMALS



Your generosity provided

255,194

pet meals to those in need

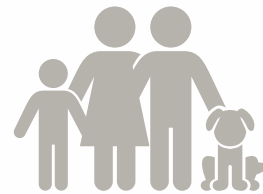


A 100% increase over the last five years

You gave

10,512

pet owners in
the community
access to
innovative
services and
resources



Because of you,

\$6.7M

worth of veterinary care was
provided to the community
through shelter and community
programs, helping

15,730

animals heal and thrive



You helped

1,300

animals in
law enforcement
cases

You made it possible for

216

children to fuel their
passion for animal
welfare through humane
education opportunities

Pets Are Family

Pets are family for over one million Massachusetts households, which is why ARL is doing everything we can to keep pets in homes with the people who love them.

Imagine dealing with a pet's injury or illness during a financial struggle. For many families, rising costs of living and a lack of affordable veterinary care options have turned this stressful scenario into reality, leading to heartbreaking decisions about giving up their pets. Financial barriers shouldn't stand between a family and their pet's health.

Tianna found herself in this situation earlier this year. She brought her dog, Hazel, to ARL's Wellness Waggin'®, and the veterinary team noticed Hazel had an aural hematoma, a painful mass of broken blood vessels in her ear. This would require surgery to address, and at a private clinic, could cost more than \$2,500.

But, thanks to supporters like you, Tianna did not have to part with her beloved Hazel. They qualified for assistance from the Alice T. Whitney Helping Hands Fund. This fund provides assistance to pet owners for acute medical needs.

Hazel received the surgery she needed the next day. Tianna expressed her gratitude to ARL supporters, saying,



"We appreciate all ARL does for the animals and the people who love them. You are a true blessing to our community and to the animals you care for. Thank you for your hard work and for always going above and beyond."





**About the Alice T. Whitney
Helping Hands Fund**

Longtime ARL supporter and former Board member, Jane Whitney Marshall, established the Alice T. Whitney Helping Hands Fund in memory of her grandmother — who became vice president in 1916 and served on the Board of Directors from 1921 until her passing in 1955.

We are incredibly grateful to Jane for her visionary generosity for people and pets in need. Thank you, Jane, for building a powerful legacy of kindness that will forever change the lives of animals and the people who love them.

Hug Them Today, Help Them Tomorrow

Named after ARL's founder, the **Anna Harris Smith Legacy Society®** is an exceptional group of 180 supporters who are passionate about helping animals now and after their lifetime. Members have chosen to include ARL in their plans as a personal legacy of compassion.

Albert T. Aladjem
John & Anne Marie Allison
Roberta Alpert
Susan Alt
Holly Amans-Kaiser
Katrina Anderson & Michael Denomy
Judith S. Anderson
Anonymous (9)
Pamela B. Bankert
Larry Barnett
Jill M. Barres
Eva Barrett
Jon Barron
Nancy Z. Bender
Harvey Bidwell & Nancy Binner
Sharon L. Bird
Elinor R. Blair
Ellen & Mark Borreliz
John Bradford
Linda M. Breen
Lori Brids
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Melanie Brokate
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Ruth Chobit
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John & Mary Cotton
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The Ellen B. Gray Memorial Fund
Dr. Beverly Fay Greenwold Fund
for Animal Care
Jeremy Griswold
Douglas & Cathy Gustafson
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Elvira Hand
Carlo M. Hansen
Susan J. Harrington
Nathan S. Hasson
John & Sherry Hatch
Richard & Martha Heath
Ronald Heinrichsen &
Henry Anderson
Jean S. Higgins
Elaine Hill
Graham & Nicki Hird
Judith Horgan
Mary Lou Hughes
Doris Hughes
Brian Hyde & Joe Fiorello
Sandra Ilgen
Jeanne Isenstein
Harold K. Isham, Jr.
Christine Jellow
Carolyn M. Kasdon
Walter & Lee Kenyon
Drs. Cynthia & William Kettyle
Barbara W. Kidder
Jan Kinkopf
Dr. Trude Kleinschmidt
Sheryl J. Lawrence
Lee Ann & Michael Leahy
Carol R. Leduc
Carol A. Legere

Sandra & Philip Lewis
Joann M. Lindenmayer
Anne-Marie & William Litchfield
Janice Litwin & Alan Wichlei
Stanton A. Lyman
Erin V. MacKesey-Topp
Kathleen & Norman MacLeod
Elizabeth MacPherson
Leslie R. Mahn
Rose B. Mandelbaum
Lisa Mankita Fay
Sharon J. Matland
Marjorie J. Mayer
Malcolm McDonald & Susan Passoni
Stacy McGrath in memory of King
Tom McIntyre
Kelly & Brian McKernan
Kate Merritt
Laurie Messikian
Paula M. Minihan
Virginia & William Musker
Avi Nelson
Mary Jane Niemann, in honor of
John & Mary Neimann
Mary M. O'Connell
Mary & John Parker
Joanne R. Penta
Julie Petot
Julie and Laura Polvinen
Susan M. Porazzo
Deborah E. Poto
Lorraine Ramsay
Carol A. Rhoads
Jody W. Rice-Hines
Heather & Park Ridill
Dennis Rivera
Diane R. Roazen
José Rodriguez-Villalobos &
Christopher Lapan
Brenda Rosenberg
David Rosenthal
Sandie Rotberg
Paul F. Rulison
The Lois & Larry Ruttman Bequest
for the Upkeep of the Animal
Rescue League of Boston

Cassie Ryan
William J. Salem
Maureen Salkin
Dr. Stephen Spiegelberg &
Denise Saltojanos
Michael Samuelian & Sean Murray
Shira Sands
Lynne Schlossberg
Kelly Scott
Barbara J. Servis
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Cynthia I. Tulloch
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Chris Waters
Cynthia A. Waters
Teri F. Weidner
Marcia Weisman
Christopher White &
Angela Wehr
David Wisholek &
Christopher McBride
Jennie Wood
John & Patricia Worden
Louise & Kurt Wulff
Mamie Wytrwal & David Caponera
Susan A. Yauckoes
Richard & Elizabeth Young
Shari C. Zalkind

Anna Harris Smith Legacy Society® Spotlight:

Michael Samuelian and Sean Murray



For Michael and Sean, a chance encounter in a South End coffee shop on a winter morning two decades ago led not only to a lifelong partnership, but also to a shared journey rooted in love, community, and compassion for animals.

Though Sean wasn't always a pet person, that changed when he met Michael. Michael had long been an animal lover, growing up with many cats as cherished family members—including Mayday, a beloved black cat he had when he and Sean met.

Mayday came into Michael's life when his roommate heard meowing from a box near their apartment. Inside was a tiny black kitten, and they named him Mayday in honor of the urgent cries that led to his rescue.

When Mayday passed at the remarkable age of 21, the loss was deeply felt. Mayday had clearly made an impression on Sean, and he gently suggested they open their hearts to another cat—which led them to ARL.

After meeting with a few cats, Sean felt the tap of a little paw on his shoulder. He turned around to find James (then Jimmy) reaching out from his kennel. It was clear: James had chosen them.

From that moment, he became a beloved part of the family, known fondly as "Lord James," "Sir Meows-a-Lot," and dozens of other affectionate nicknames.

Since then, Michael and Sean's connection to ARL has only deepened. As proud members of the Anna Harris Smith Legacy Society, they've made the meaningful decision to include ARL in their estate plans—ensuring that their love for animals will make a lasting impact long into the future.

"We're fortunate to be in a place where we can help," they shared. "Supporting ARL means we're helping those who can't speak for themselves."

Their legacy gift reflects not only their trust in ARL's mission, but their shared values: a commitment to community, a desire to protect vulnerable animals, and a deep appreciation for organizations that use resources wisely. "We wanted to be deliberate. We believe in ARL's people, and its work—especially law enforcement, affordable veterinary care, and humane education."

Michael and Sean support other important causes as well—ranging from cancer and HIV care to food security initiatives—but ARL holds a special place in their hearts. "Leaving a legacy with ARL is our way of making sure more animals can live a life like James."

Their story is a testament to the power of love—not only between two people, but between people and their pets. We are profoundly grateful to Michael and Sean, and to every member of the Anna Harris Smith Legacy Society, for their enduring compassion.

Thank you
to our
**Volunteers
& Fosters**

1,164

dedicated volunteers

141,856

hours helping animals

583

foster families
provided care for

1,042

animals

To all of our volunteers:
your kindness, time, and
unwavering support are truly
what make our work possible.
Thank you for making the world
a better place for animals and
for being an essential part of
our ARL family!



Volunteer Spotlight:

Kathleen McQuiggan

On her very first volunteer shift at ARL, Kathleen McQuiggan met Juno, an adorable puppy who immediately tugged at her heart. The temptation to take Juno home was strong, but she knew that making a difference didn't always mean adopting—it can also mean showing up, giving love, and helping as many animals as possible.

Her lifelong love for animals began in childhood, with Great Danes her mother raised. That bond grew stronger over the years, influencing not only her decision to adopt shelter dogs but eventually leading her to ARL as a dedicated and compassionate volunteer.

When she moved to Boston in 2001, Kathleen was adamant about adopting a dog. So, on a Sunday morning, she came to the Boston Animal Care & Adoption Center and met a young Shepherd mix. One look into the dog's soulful eyes was all it took. Kathleen named her Maude after her beloved

late grandmother, who would have been delighted to know a cherished dog carried her name. Maude was Kathleen's beloved copilot and sidekick for more than 13 years.



Maude

After Maude's passing, Kathleen adopted two more rescue dogs, including her current dog Pearl, a Pitbull mix, who is now 11 years old. She gravitates toward the Pitbull mixes, knowing how they are often unfairly judged, and appreciates the opportunity to help them feel safe, loved, and understood.

Kathleen has an extensive resume of helping many non-profits on their Boards and committees, however, a desire to get back to the roots of causes she cared about led her to start volunteering as a Canine Companion at ARL. Now, Kathleen is at our Boston location every Sunday afternoon. Walking dogs is her main responsibility, but she's always happy to pitch in with laundry or dishes! Her years of experience with challenging dogs have made her particularly attuned to the unique challenges that some shelter dogs face.

Kathleen says that volunteering at ARL has been an incredible experience. She reports that the staff is welcoming, the fellow volunteers are inspiring, and the work is deeply rewarding.

One of the most rewarding aspects of volunteering for Kathleen has been seeing how quickly dogs find homes. She was pleasantly surprised by the short length of stay at ARL and takes comfort in knowing that, even in the short time they are at ARL, they receive the care and companionship they need. That sense of purpose keeps her coming back each week, making her volunteer shift a key part of her weekly routine.

Beyond walking dogs, Kathleen is in awe of ARL's vast range of community services. She finds it especially meaningful to support an organization that helps other families through services like the free Pet Behavior Helpline, Wellness Waggin'®, and Spay Waggin'®.

Her passion for giving back extends beyond ARL, mirroring the same dedication she brings to her career in financial services, where she helps individuals, particularly women, build secure futures—just as she helps provide stability and care for shelter animals.

Kathleen embodies the spirit of ARL's mission, and we are grateful to have her as part of our volunteer family. While she may not have adopted Juno that first day, the experience reaffirmed why she wanted to be part of ARL—because every small act of kindness, from a walk to a warm meal, makes a difference in the lives of animals in need. Thank you, Kathleen, and thank you to all of our volunteers who make this life-changing work possible!



Pearl



Paws to Celebrate

Last year, ARL supporters gathered for our 6th annual Paws to Celebrate event series in Truro, Chatham, Boston, and Dedham.

The iconic Chatham Bars Inn hosted guests who enjoyed light bites and sangria; and supporters at Truro Vineyards sipped specialty wine and cocktails while listening to a live performance by American Idol contestant and ARL volunteer, Natalie Bonfini, in the company of their dogs.

At the historic Hampshire House, guests gathered to celebrate our 125th anniversary over drinks and light bites. A few weeks later, a like-minded crowd of animal lovers spent the evening in Dedham at ARL's Solomon Family Administration Building where they were

greeted by various ARL alumni whose successful stories they made possible.

At each event, Dr. Edward Schettino, ARL President & CEO, shared a powerful video that illustrated ARL's journey (past, present, and future) and the profound difference our supporters have made for animals in need along the way. He also shared ARL's exciting plans to rebuild our Boston Animal Care & Adoption Center, which will transform how we care for animals.



Left: Dr. Edward Schettino and Animal Advocate Award Winner, Grace Fey; Top right: L to R Denise Saltojanes, Dr. Stephen Spiegelberg, Kim Elder, Dave Judelson, Paula Rabe, and Arthur Rabe; Bottom right: Representative Steven Xiarhos and Kim Roderiques.

Thank You to Our Paws to Celebrate Host Committee

Roger & Denise Ackerman, Consie & Ted Berghausen, Barbara Burg, Alison Erbig & Will Goldberg, Grace & Ted Fey, Anna Freedman, Lisa Gigliotti, Denise Goldstein, Gabby Hanna & Marcy Feller, Brian Hyde & Joe Fiorello, Sara Johnson, Katie & Dan Kane, Walter & Lee Kenyon, Cindy & Bill Kettle, Elena Kirkiles, Trude Kleinschmidt, Renee Knilans, Susan Koors, Laura L'Abbe, Connie & Peter Lacaillade, Anne-Marie & Bill Litchfield, Nancy Logan, Patti & Michael Lotane, Rod Macdonald, Julie Mackin & Daniel Clevenger, Jane Whitney Marshall & Jeffrey Marshall, Barbara Matteson, Scott McMenemy, Dan Menendez & Dan Landers, Tara & Christophe Oliver, Marilyn & Dodge Olmsted, Lisa Rachlin, Heather & Park Ridill, Kim Roderiques, José Rodriguez-Villalobos & Christopher Lapan, Denise Saltojanas & Dr. Stephen Spiegelberg, Jennifer Shea, Jessica Thomas, Bill Whelan & Megan Gates

Special Thanks to Our Paws to Celebrate Sponsors

Platinum Pawprint



Leader of the Pack



Best in Show

Beacon Financial Planning, Inc.	Loomis Sayles
Companion Protect	Point32 Health Foundation
Eastern Bank Foundation	Starkweather & Shepley
Edward Jones	Wequassett Resort and Golf Club
Liberty Mutual	

Top Dog

Burbs to Boston	Walter & Lee Kenyon
Cape Cod 5	Team Guthrie-Mabile
Chatham Bars Inn	Mintz
Gourmet Catering	José Rodriguez- Villalobos &
Grossman Marketing Group	Christopher Lapan
Brian Hyde & Joe Fiorello	



CLEO

Cleo's gorgeous looks, sweet nature, and habit of jumping into any available lap quickly made her a staff and volunteer favorite at ARL. Despite this, she had some trouble finding an adopter who was willing to manage her diabetes while being the only pet in the home.



Thanks to you, Cleo received the royal treatment she deserved. Your generosity provided the medical care, special food, and extra time she needed to find her new throne. And after 260 days in our care, Queen Cleo finally made her grand exit to a loving home fit for feline royalty.

Foster Feature:

Kira Weaver

With an infectious personality and an unwavering commitment to helping animals, Kira has opened her home to 28 fosters so far—17 dogs and 11 cats—since moving to Boston three years ago.

Her love for animals is deeply rooted in her upbringing. Originally from California, Kira grew up in a home that always had three or four dogs at a time, along with a variety of other pets including tortoises, hamsters, geckos, and even a snake! She credits her parents for helping to shape her values and instill the love and compassion for animals she has today.

One of the most defining experiences came from Diesel, her family's dog who suffered a slipped disc at age two. His condition required extra patience and care, which she and her family provided wholeheartedly until his passing at the age of five. This opened her eyes to just how much animals need us, and how much we need them. His impact was so profound that she bears a tattoo in his honor, forever reminding her of the lessons of patience, compassion, and empathy she learned from him.



Diesel



Kira Weaver with ARL adoptable dog

Kira wanted to help more people experience that special bond, and though she was not ready to commit to adopting, she thought fostering would be the perfect way to experience the joy of animals, while helping others. So, on a flight home from a trip, and after a quick Google search, she found ARL and applied to be a foster.

Just two weeks after moving into a new apartment, she welcomed in her first foster – a tiny kitten named Gus who had ringworm, a foster experience that would make many hesitate. Kira didn't grow up with cats, but she embraced the opportunity as a learning experience, allowing her to care for more cats and kittens in the future.

From tiny kittens to big-headed bully breeds, she embraces every foster opportunity with the same level of love and enthusiasm. She says even in moments of chaos with a litter of kittens or a rambunctious puppy, she is able to reflect on her experience with Diesel,

which instilled the patience and compassion necessary to work through any experience fostering throws at her.

Kira cites the incredible community that supports both the animals and volunteers as one of her favorite parts of working with ARL. But her passion for animal welfare extends beyond providing temporary homes. She deeply values the work that ARL does, emphasizing not only adoption services but the additional resources ARL provides, such as dog training, advocacy work, and programs like the Spay Waggin' and Wellness Waggin' that provide accessible veterinary care to those in need.

Kira's story is one of selflessness, energy, and an unshakable belief in the power of rescue. Whether it's taking in a sick kitten, helping a shy dog find their confidence, or simply spreading awareness about the importance of fostering, she pours her heart into everything she does. Her dedication serves as an inspiration to others, proving that even temporary care can have a lifelong impact on an animal's future.



DREW

Drew spent 302 days in our care waiting patiently for a family of his own. Through every day of his time with us, you were there for him.

His adopter, a long-time guinea pig lover, saw his potential right away. "People don't always realize you can adopt small animals—and it feels so good to give them a great life," she shared.

Though shy at first, Drew has blossomed. He now runs to the edge of his cage to be picked up, greets his adopter when she enters the room, and happily munches on his favorite snacks. "He's so happy and confident now. It's been amazing watching him grow."

To everyone who made his journey possible, she says: "Thank you. It was clear how much you cared about him." Because of you, Drew is home.



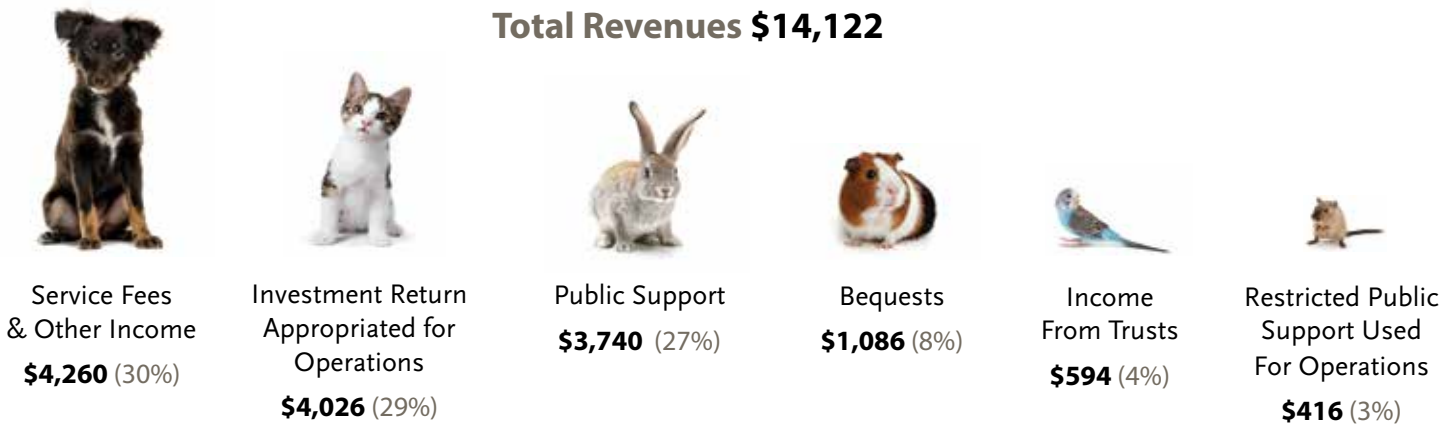
Drew, adopted. Photo Credit: Jen Hilenga, The Ways of the Dog

Summary Financial Statements

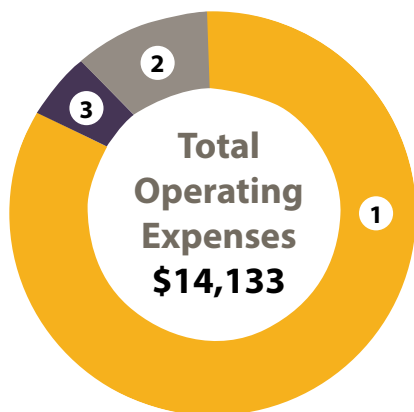
(in Thousands)

OPERATING REVENUES

Total Revenues \$14,122



OPERATING EXPENSES



(in Thousands)

- ① Program Services:
\$11,556 (82%)
- ② General and
Administrative:
\$1,587 (11%)
- ③ Fundraising:
\$970 (7%)

We continue to manage our resources prudently. We received a clean audit with no management findings from our independent auditors, AAFCPAs.

Audited financial statements are available on our website. You may also request a copy of these statements by emailing Jackie Smith at jsmith@arlboston.org.



Champions Circle Feature:

Jeanne Lesczynski
& Diane DiCarlo



*Jeanne Lesczynski & Diane DiCarlo
with their rescue dog, Rocco*

Jeanne and Diane have spent 31 wonderful years together, dividing their time between Massachusetts and the sunny shores of Florida. Their days are filled with activities they love—golf and tennis, gardening, theater, and most of all, giving back to the causes that are closest to their hearts. But there's one thing that has always been at the center of their lives: their love for animals.

For Diane, animals have always been more than just companions—they've been family. As a child, she cared for a variety of animals, including dogs, horses, donkeys, and even sheep. Jeanne shares a similar bond with animals, having grown up with a cherished half-collie, half-sheltie who lived to the remarkable age of 18. Their current rescue dog, Rocco, has been a beloved member of their family for years, and they often joke that he's the one who truly keeps them on their toes!

Jeanne and Diane's journey with ARL began when a friend invited them to our Paws to Celebrate event in

Dedham. What they witnessed that day—rescued animals finding love and care—left an indelible mark on their hearts. It was at that moment that they knew they wanted to be a part of something bigger, something that would make a lasting difference in the lives of animals and people alike. Becoming monthly donors was a natural choice. As Jeanne puts it, "it's the easiest way to give—you don't have to think about it, and it's always there when you need it."

For Jeanne and Diane, their monthly support ensures ARL can continue to provide lifesaving services for animals and their families year-round. They understand the importance of consistent, reliable funding for nonprofits, allowing them to plan and grow their impact. When it comes to choosing where to direct their donations, Jeanne and Diane look for a nonprofit that is transparent and has a tangible local impact. "We want to see where our money goes and know it's making a difference," they explain. This is why they are particularly drawn to ARL's community programs like

the Spay Waggin' and the Wellness Waggin', which bring critical services directly to the communities that need them. "It's not just about rescuing animals—it's about keeping families together," they say, proudly highlighting ARL's holistic approach to animal welfare.

But Jeanne and Diane's philanthropy doesn't stop at animal welfare. Jeanne, a retired microbiologist, is a passionate advocate for environmental preservation. She is a long-time Board Member of the Center for Coastal Studies in Provincetown, and a former Board member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. She has worked to protect Florida's Mangrove habitats, even purchasing properties to prevent them from being developed. She received Certification as a Florida Master Naturalist this past year. Diane's philanthropy extends to political and humanitarian causes, including organizations like the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, and the Red Cross.

Jeanne and Diane's deep commitment to animals, conservation, and social causes makes them not only incredible supporters of ARL but also compassionate change-makers in every corner of their community. Their generosity is a beacon of hope, ensuring that animals and people alike receive the care, protection, and love they deserve.

ARL is deeply grateful for the generosity of Jeanne and Diane and all monthly donors, whose consistent support makes a lasting impact. Their kindness and dedication ensure that animals receive the care, protection, and love they deserve, strengthening the bond between pets and the people who cherish them.



To all of our Champions Circle members, *thank you!*

Most donations come in the last two weeks of December, but animals need help every day. Champions Circle members are there for animals 365 days a year!

The Champions Circle is a special group of 1,130+ dedicated donors who pledge their support with recurring donations, sort of like a subscription for saving animals!

This reliable and steady generosity provides the critical support needed to give animals food, sanctuary, medical care, love, and emergency rescue if they are in danger.

To view a complete list of our Champions Circle Members, please visit arlboston.org/champions

Join the Champions Circle

Contact Derek Stemmler at dstemmler@arlboston.org, (617) 226-5662 or visit arlboston.org/champions.





President's Council Feature

Mary Jane Treacy & Connie Chan

For Connie and Mary Jane, a shared love of animals has been a constant throughout their lives. After years as professors in Boston—Connie in clinical psychology and Mary Jane in the humanities—they retired to Cape Cod, where they embraced a new chapter filled with four-legged family members and a commitment to animal welfare.

Their journey with ARL began years ago at our Boston Animal Care & Adoption Center when they added a cat named Gigi to their family. They then became clients at Boston Veterinary Care for Gigi and the rest of their felines.

When Connie and Mary Jane moved to the Cape, they decided to adopt a dog from the Brewster Animal Care & Adoption Center. This led to a life-changing decision to adopt Keiki, a terrified puppy who came to ARL on a recent transport. Though they initially envisioned an easygoing dog, fate had other plans. When Connie and Mary Jane arrived at the shelter, they discovered a frightened black puppy, hiding under her bed in fear. Something told them that despite her special needs, she was the one.

Her transformation was slow but profound. Initially, Keiki was so timid, she would only eat in her crate. But with patience and love, she blossomed into a cherished companion. Despite challenges, including a broken finger for Mary Jane after an incident with a twisted leash, Keiki

The President's Council is a special group of **663 astoundingly generous donors** who make annual gifts of \$1,000 or more for animals in need. Their generosity provides the critical resources needed to care for animals where they belong, connect community resources, strengthen laws, and raise awareness to prevent animal neglect and cruelty everywhere.

Our work would not be possible without the President's Council – we receive no government grants or public funding and we must rely on the kindness and generosity of our most trusted supporters.

To view a complete list of President's Council members, please visit arlboston.org/pc-members.





Connie Chan, Mary Jane Treacy, and their dogs Leilani and Keiki

has been part of their family for over a decade. Her name, which means “child” in Hawaiian, reflects their deep love for her.

A year after Keiki’s adoption, another furry friend entered their lives. Connie happened to see a puppy named Leilani at another rescue. Though she initially resisted the idea of another dog, Connie soon found herself calling Mary Jane to set up a meeting. Leilani and Keiki bonded instantly, and today, they are inseparable companions.

Connie, who grew up in Hawaii, has loved animals since childhood and would show kindness to every stray she met. Mary Jane grew up with many beloved family cats. Today, they extend that compassion by creating pollinator-friendly gardens in their yard, advocating for wildlife, and of course, supporting ARL.

They are passionate about helping more challenging pets, like Keiki, find the loving homes they

deserve. They also recognize the importance of ARL’s wide-ranging services, spay and neuter programs like the Spay Waggin’, and support for a variety of animals, not just dogs and cats. On the Cape, where resources for animal welfare can be limited, ARL plays a crucial role in ensuring that animals in need receive the care and attention they deserve.

Looking ahead, they hope their support will help more animals like Keiki heal and find loving homes. Grateful for the network that brought Keiki into their lives, they wish for others to experience the same joy and life-changing connection that pet adoption has brought them. For Connie and Mary Jane, animal welfare is not just a worthy cause—it’s a lifelong commitment. Through their generosity, they continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of animals, the families who adopt them, and the community.

Leadership Circle Feature:

Denise Saltojanes



Denise Saltojanes exemplifies leadership, innovation, and a dedication to uplifting others. Her career journey is a testament to her relentless curiosity and drive, beginning as a chemical engineer at GE, transitioning to investment banking, and later devoting over a decade to the Air Force Department of Defense as a civilian operations research analyst. True to her dynamic nature, she also pursued her own massage therapy business before shifting her focus to private investing. Today, she plays a crucial role in helping female-led startups secure funding and scale their businesses.

Originally raised on a farm in Connecticut, Denise grew up surrounded by animals. Her family's land housed up to 40,000 chickens, along with horses, dairy cows, and several farm cats. Whether it was braiding her horses' manes, milking cows, or cuddling with a dog, she treated every animal with the care of a best friend.

Her grandfather, who started the farm during the Great Depression, instilled in her a deep appreciation for animals—a passion she carries to this day. Though she no longer lives on a farm, she and her husband, Steve, share their home with two personable dachshunds, Stanley and Henry.

Denise's philanthropic philosophy mirrors her business mindset—strategic, impact-driven, and rooted in

strong leadership. While her relationship with ARL began with a dog training class in Boston, she has grown to admire the organization's community-driven approach, recognizing that ARL's work extends far beyond sheltering animals. Denise strongly believes in making pet ownership accessible to all, rejecting the idea that only certain people "deserve" to have pets. As she puts it simply, "it's free to love."

As a proud member of ARL's Leadership Circle, Denise believes in supporting organizations that adapt to evolving needs, both locally and nationally. For her, investing in ARL is about more than helping animals—it's about shaping a more compassionate society where respect for animals is woven into our laws, values, and everyday lives.

Her dedication to supporting women-led initiatives makes her connection to ARL even more meaningful. Founded in 1899 by visionary Anna Harris Smith, ARL was the first female-founded animal welfare organization in Massachusetts. Just as she champions women's leadership in business, Denise's support of ARL honors the pioneering spirit of women who have driven change in animal welfare for over a century. Her generosity and leadership inspire us, and we are deeply grateful for her unwavering support in building a kinder world for animals and the people who love them.



Denise's dachshunds,
Stanley and Henry

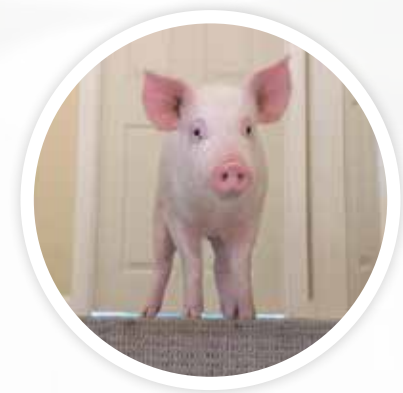
Trusts and Bequests

ARL is extremely thankful to be named as beneficiaries of wills and estate plans from the following individuals:

Carol A. Ahearn Bequest
Estate of Elbis E. Andonian
Claire Barden Living Trust
Pauline Bill Trust
Priscilla Biondi Bequest
Elizabeth J. Bombaci 2004 Trust
Emma L. Borden Trust
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The Boston Foundation
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The Edmund and Mary Comey
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Margarette G. Crossman Trust
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Revocable Trust
Estate of Claire Dennis
Estate of Erica L. deZitter
Estate of June L. deWilloughby
Carolyn M. Hardy Estate
Madge C. Fairfax Trust
W. Clifford Fisher Revocable Trust
Lelia M. Forster Trust
Estate of James P. Furlong
Virginia A. Gaffey, Jr.
Revocable Trust
Marina E. Galarneau
Irrevocable Trust
Estate of Toni K. Gelotte
Donna B. Grover Bequest
Estate of Dorrit C. Gutterson
Eugene Hamilton Trust, Par. 8

Eugene B. Hamilton Trust
Marion B. Hamilton
Charitable Trust
Estate of Clinton Adrian Heitman
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Estate of Anna F. MacDougall
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Arlene E. McGrath Revocable Trust
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Charitable Trust
Minnie RH & Lyman Morrison
Charitable Trust
Antoinette M. Tambascia
Revocable Trust
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Nina Purdon Charitable
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Estate of John J. Rega
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Revocable Trust
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Trust of Lizzie S. Stone
Olive F. Stengel Trust
Estate of Louise G. Thayer
Dorothy Whitney Charitable Trust
Gladys F. Wilde Trust
Kenneth C. Wagner Living Trust
Shirley L. Wagner Living Trust





LILY

When tiny Lily arrived at ARL in October 2024, she was just two weeks old and weighed only six pounds. She needed round-the-clock neonatal care and you made that possible.

One of our dedicated staff members stepped up to foster her, providing the specialized attention she needed to grow strong and healthy. And when the time came, her foster family realized she already found her home with them, so they made it official and adopted her!

Because of you, Lily has the loving family every animal deserves. Thank you for making her journey possible!

"We absolutely love her and she quickly became a member of our family. She gets along with anyone she meets, and loves our pet cats, who are also ARL alums. Her favorite hobbies include doing zoomies down our hall and getting chin scratches."

Foundations, Corporate and Media Partners

ARL is grateful for the support of more than 243 foundations, corporate and nonprofit partners, and media partners.

Foundations

Aiyana Foundation, Inc.	George S. Troupe Foundation	Minneapolis Foundation
American Endowment Foundation	Gerald R. Jordan Foundation	Moriarty Family Charitable
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Edward Gorey Charitable Trust	Massachusetts Animal Coalition, Inc.	Assistance for Vet Care
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Alewife Company, Inc.	Fidelity Investments	Pine Street Inn
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Anterra Capital	Frontstream	Provincetown Art Association and Museum (PAAM)
Avalon Bay Communities, Inc.	Goldman Sachs & Company	Provincetown Art Society
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Baramor	Gourmet Caterers	Rashi School
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Beacon Hill Staffing	GS Donor Advised Philanthropy Fund for Wealth Management	Round Cove Resort Owner LLC
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The Black Dog Tavern Company, Inc.	Harvard University	RTX Corporation
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Buckley Associates, Inc.	J.McLaughlin	Talbots
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Cape Cod British Car Club	KPMG	Tito's Handmade Vodka
Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank	Leader Bank	Tower 28 Beauty
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ZOEY

Zoey spent 19 times longer in our care than the average dog. Despite her irresistible smile and playful personality, her large size and boundless energy made it challenging to find the right adopter. Sadly, she's not alone—more and more large dogs with behavioral needs are entering our shelter in need of time, patience, and specialized support.

Thanks to your compassion and generosity, Zoey got exactly that. Because of you, she received months of loving care, behavior training, and enrichment tailored just for her—everything she needed to be ready for adoption. After 233 days of waiting, Zoey's moment finally came, and she found her family!



Ways to Give

Sit. Stay. Rollover... Your IRA to help animals!

Did you know... Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs), also known as IRA charitable rollovers, allow individuals who are 70½ years or older to donate to qualified charities like the Animal Rescue League of Boston. QCDs can help offset an individual's required minimum distribution, which may have tax benefits. **To donate by QCD, please contact your IRA custodian.**

Other Ways to Support Animals

The Animal Rescue League of Boston is pleased to accept donations of cryptocurrency and gifts from Donor-Advised Funds (DAF). To donate cryptocurrency, visit bit.ly/ARL-crypto. To donate through your DAF, visit arl.boston/daf or contact your DAF manager. You can also donate online at arl.boston.org or mail your donation (checks payable to the Animal Rescue League of Boston) to: Animal Rescue League of Boston, c/o: Development, 10 Anna's Place, Dedham, MA 02026.

Give Securities... To Give Security

Did you know... Your gift of securities today can provide the security of safe shelter and loving care for an animal in need. Gifts of stock, bonds, and mutual funds not only help animals in need, but also may provide you with a tax benefit and avoidance of capital gains taxes. To donate stock or other appreciated securities, contact Jackie Smith at jsmith@arl.boston.org or 617-226-5608.

Scan the QR code or visit arl.boston.org/donate to learn more about the many ways you can give to support the animals you love.





Thank you for making
this work possible

The 2024 Gratitude Report is a publication of the Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Anna's Pl, Dedham, MA 02026. Please address any correspondence regarding this report to the address above, Attention: Development Office.

The Animal Rescue League of Boston receives no government grants or public funding and relies solely on kind supporters like you to provide veterinary care, adoption and rescue services, and special police investigation and advocacy aimed at preventing cruelty and strengthening the laws that protect animals.

Stay Connected with Us!

-  AnimalRescueLeagueOfBoston
-  @arlboston
-  The Animal Rescue League of Boston
-  Animal Rescue League of Boston
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Adopt a Pet

Visit one of our Animal Care & Adoption Centers:

- 10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA 02116
- 3981 Main Street (Route 6A),
East Brewster, MA 02631
- 55 Anna's Place, Dedham, MA 02026

Boston Veterinary Care

Make an appointment at Boston Veterinary Care (BVC) by calling (617) 226-5605. BVC is a clinic with a mission, all profits support the Animal Rescue League of Boston

Take a Dog Training Class

Visit arlboston.org/dog-training to enroll your pet and view course schedules

Get Involved

Visit arlboston.org/get-involved to learn all the ways you can support animals in need

Help an Animal in Distress

Contact Field Services (617) 426-9170 x563

Report Animal Cruelty

Contact Law Enforcement (617) 426-9170 x110

Join the Anna Harris Smith Legacy Society®

To leave your legacy of compassion for animals, contact ARL's Development Office at (617) 226-5608

