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ARL Provides Community Kitten with Life-Saving Care

Kitten suffered from traumatic leg injury

An 8-month-old community kitten recently received a life-saving surgery at the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) and while not ready for adoption quite yet, she is well on her way to finding the home and life she deserves.

Community cats comprise of friendly strays, feral cats, or owned cats that are allowed outdoors to roam. Community cat colonies usual form due to a conducive environment like an established food source or protective shelter.

The kitten, named Alice, was living among a colony of community cats in Fall River, and ARL's Field Services Department was contacted after the kitten was seen with a significant limp. Once on-scene, ARL trapped the kitten and transported her to ARL's Dedham Animal Care and Adoption Center for an assessment.

Alice's thorough veterinary exam revealed a previous traumatic injury to her rear leg, causing pain, swelling, and deformation of the limb and joint. The severity of the injury was beyond repair, and ARL's veterinary team determined that amputating the leg would give Alice the best chance at a normal, pain-free life.

After surgery, Alice was placed into foster care to fully heal, and will soon be made available for adoption.

With her injury, she likely would not have survived a life living outdoors, as her limited mobility made her more vulnerable to predators and other outside dangers. Alice is one example of the thousands of community cats and kittens ARL helps annually.

ARL's Community Cat program assesses cat colonies throughout Massachusetts, formulating Trap-Neuter-Return plans which includes spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations, and whether each cat will be returned to the colony, or admitted to an ARL shelter to be put up for adoption if they are friendly.

In 2024, ARL's Community Cat Program helped nearly 1,200 community cats and kittens, with nearly 800 of these animals finding new homes.

Without proper care, community cats are at serious risk of illness and injury and ARL is the only large animal welfare organization in Massachusetts with a dedicated agent working with community cats and kittens. ARL's intake of these animals continues to increase every year, and the organization is currently offering a donation match to help ARL continue this important work.

From now through June 30, 2025, all community cat donations will me matched dollar-for-dollar to help twice the numbers of community cats in need!

Those interested in contributing can visit <u>arlboston.org/community-cat-match-2025</u> for more information.

For photos of Alice, please click the Dropbox link below:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/6uh09rs6njhjdzcbxzezz/AANVRXB535picX6Q2T6emV4?rlkey=xbe8tkjnvbpypuiffni2om9gi&st=xr537ck3&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, 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.

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