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**ANIMAL
RESCUE
LEAGUE
of BOSTON**



**THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON AWARDED \$75,000 CUMMINGS
GRANT**

DEDHAM, MA (June 4, 2026) – The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) has been awarded a \$75,000 grant over three years through Cummings Foundation’s competitive annual grant program and is proud to stand as the only animal welfare organization among just 150 chosen from a record 959 applicants.

Founded in 1899, ARL is Massachusetts’ first female-founded animal welfare organization, a legacy it carries forward today by helping more than 20,000 animals annually. Through innovative, award-winning programs, ARL addresses the root causes of the challenges facing animals and the families who love them, helping animals heal and thrive, preventing surrender, and protecting animals from harm across Greater Boston. This grant will strengthen commitment to keeping pets and people together.

“Being selected as the only animal welfare organization in this grant cycle is a tremendous honor. We are grateful to the Cummings Foundation for their generosity and recognizing the important connection between the health of animals, people, and the community,” said President & CEO Dr. Edward Schettino. “Every day, our team works tirelessly to provide pet food and essential supplies to pet owners facing financial barriers as well as temporary pet housing for families facing crisis. These critical dollars will keep our mission moving forward for the animals and people who need us most.”

This year, Cummings Foundation increased its annual grant program from \$30 million to \$35 million and shifted to fully unrestricted funding, giving organizations like ARL the flexibility to direct resources where they are needed most. For ARL, that flexibility is critical, whether it means expanding community outreach or strengthening the other programs that help families stay with their pets.

Foundation Executive Director and Trustee Joyce Vyriotes noted that the changes reflect growing concerns among Greater Boston nonprofits about rising costs, increased demand for services, and sustained uncertainty around public funding. “Nonprofit professionals are closest to the challenges facing their communities, making them best positioned to determine where and how new funds will

drive the greatest impact,” said Vyriotes. “By providing increased, flexible funding, we hope to strengthen organizations’ long-term stability and help them respond to evolving community needs.”

The Cummings Foundation Grant Program supports Massachusetts nonprofits primarily serving Middlesex, Essex, and Suffolk counties, as well as several surrounding communities. Cummings Foundation reinvests in the areas where it owns commercial real estate, with all rental profits from its affiliate, Cummings Properties, supporting the Foundation. Since its founding, Cummings Foundation has awarded more than \$650 million to Greater Boston nonprofits.

With no government funding, grants like this one are what keep ARL’s mission alive and thriving. The recognition from Cummings Foundation is a meaningful reflection of the work ARL has done and continues to do across the Greater Boston area.

About The Animal Rescue League of Boston

Pets are family. This belief is at the heart of everything the Animal Rescue League of Boston does. 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](#).

About Cummings Foundation

Woburn-based Cummings Foundation, Inc. was established in 1986 by Joyce and Bill Cummings of Winchester, Mass., and has grown to become one of the largest private foundations in New England. In addition to its annual grant program, the Foundation directly operates two not-for-profit retirement communities: New Horizons at Marlborough and New Horizons at Choate, in Woburn. Additional information is available at CummingsFoundation.org.

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