



## Mission and Vision



### Mission

ARF saves dogs and cats who have run out of time at public shelters and brings people and animals together to enrich each others lives. ARF strives to create a world where every loving dog and cat has a home, where every lonely person has a companion animal, and where children learn to care.

### Vision

ARF was created in 1991 by Elaine and Tony La Russa to address the needs of companion animals. They visualized ARF as an organization that not only aids abandoned and homeless animals, but also promotes the concept that people's lives can be enhanced by strengthening the human-animal bond. With these intertwined goals as guiding principles, ARF has designed progressive programs for many populations including abused children, the elderly, veterans, and others who can benefit from the healing contact of animals.

Moving forward, ARF will continue to respond to the immediate needs of animals that have been neglected, abused, or deprived of love to ensure they find high-quality homes. Leading by example, ARF will continue serving as a both a local and national model of a better future - one where animals are respected for the unique role they play in making the world a better place for people to live, and where there is a stable and loving home for every pet to complete its natural lifespan.

### Strategies

- To provide the rescue, adoption, and population control services necessary to ensure all companion animals a stable and loving home in which to complete a natural lifespan.
- To improve the quality of relationships between people and pets, with emphasis on populations like children, seniors, veterans, and others who gain comfort from the "healing connection" with companion animals.
- To support and lead other animal protection and human service organizations, locally and across the country, with solid program models that help save animals and bring the healing touch of animals to local communities.
- To create educational programs utilizing innovative methods to introduce the higher ideals of compassion toward animals and people, define responsible pet guardianship, and make the case for the need to control companion animal overpopulation.

### Core Values

Open • Driven • Educator's Spirit

### Strategic Anchors

Save Lives • Inspire Learning • Connect Hearts

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### Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation

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