

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, May 18, 2023 CONTACTS: Casey Waugh, Communications and Annual Giving Manager, Wayside Waifs (<u>cwaugh@waysidewaifs.org</u>) Natalie Zehr, Marketing and Communications Manager, Animal Rescue League of Iowa (<u>nzehr@arl-iowa.org</u>)

## MIDWESTERN SHELTERS TEAM UP TO REMOVE 34 DOGS FROM NORTHERN MISSOURI BREEDING OPERATION

Missouri and Iowa: Animal rescue teams from shelters in Missouri and Iowa removed 34 dogs from a breeding operation in Northern Missouri this week. Wayside Waifs in Kansas City, MO and Animal Rescue League of Iowa (ARL) in Des Moines, IA were on-site for the voluntary surrender of American Eskimo, Golden Retriever, and Labrador Retriever dogs of all ages.

"We are happy to collaborate with others like ARL to help more animals. Wayside Waifs' behavior teams are uniquely qualified to help in situations like this where the dogs will likely need extra support to really come out of their shells and thrive," said Kathryn Mahoney, Wayside Waifs President.

Medically, all of the dogs will need age-appropriate vaccinations and spay/neuter surgeries, and some of the dogs will need other eye and dental surgeries before they're ready for adoption.

"These dogs are arriving at a time when animal shelters across the country are seeing a record high number of dogs in their care and the ARL and Wayside Waifs are no exception," said Tom Colvin, ARL CEO. "When we were called to help these dogs, we both rushed into action, but we couldn't do it without our communities' support."

To help make room for these new arrivals, both organizations are reducing the adoption fees for the dogs who are already in the shelters waiting for a home. To view the dogs who are ready for adoption *right now* and to donate to help these dogs who have just arrived, visit <u>www.WaysideWaifs.org</u> and <u>www.ARL-lowa.org</u>.

The timeline of when these dogs will be available will be determined by their individual medical and behavioral needs, so interested adopters should keep an eye on the shelters' websites as new dogs become available for adoption.

**Photos/Video:** Photos and videos are available for use with credit given to the organization name on the folder located at <u>HERE</u>. If sharing on social media, please also link to @ARLIowa and @WaysideWaifs.

Interviews: Available by appointment.

## **About Wayside Waifs**

As Kansas City's largest and most comprehensive no kill pet adoption campus, Wayside Waifs prepares pets and people for the bond of their lives. More than 20,000 pets and people are served annually through pet adoptions, youth education and canine training programs, and community programming, like the pet food pantry. Wayside is a private, independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) charity. It receives no government funding and is supported entirely by private donations and grants. To see all of the animals available for adoptions or to donate, please visit <u>WaysideWaifs.org</u>.

Facebook: Wayside Waifs; Twitter: @WaysideWaifs; Instagram: @WaysideWaifs

## About Animal Rescue League of Iowa

The Animal Rescue League of Iowa is Iowa's largest nonprofit animal shelter, caring for many thousands of pets each year. The ARL strives to serve people and pets in our community through our programs and services designed to promote animal welfare, to address the reasons animals end up in shelters, to find forever adoptive homes for the animals in our care, and to help keep pets in their homes with the people who love them.

For more information about the ARL, visit <u>ARL-lowa.org</u>.

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