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**Talented and compassionate human services executive returns to  
Pittsburgh to lead Animal Rescue League**

*Daniel J. Rossi hired as organization's new Executive Director*

**Pittsburgh, PA** - The Animal Rescue League of Western PA (Animal Rescue League) is pleased to announce the selection of Dan Rossi as the organization's Executive Director. The Animal Rescue League's Board of Directors conducted an extensive national search and after a six month process approved the search committee's recommendation unanimously. Mr. Rossi will start in his new role on April 12, 2010.

Mr. Rossi, a Pittsburgh native, is returning from Phoenix, AZ where he served as the Executive Director of United Cerebral Palsy of Central Arizona. He comes to the Animal Rescue League with over 22 years on nonprofit experience. Mr. Rossi's earned a B.S. in Administration and Management Science/Economics from Carnegie-Mellon University and completed a Masters in Nonprofit Management with a 4.0 GPA from Robert Morris University.

The President of the Animal Rescue League Board of Directors, Beverlynn Elliott, also chaired the Search for the organization's new leader. She stated, "*Dan's strong background in management and fundraising will enable the ARL to continue to provide excellent care for the more than 8,000 animals who come through our doors every year.*"

Mr. Rossi is excited about returning to Pittsburgh and working with the organization's dedicated staff and volunteers to fulfill Animal Rescue League's mission. He stated, "*I have always had a deep passion for animals and am eager to apply my nonprofit education and experience toward making a difference for all animals in Western Pennsylvania. I am indeed honored to serve as the next Executive Director of the Animal Rescue League.*"

The Animal Rescue League was founded in 1909 by a group dedicated individuals committed to making the world a better place for abandoned and unwanted pets. The Animal Rescue League's mission is *to provide temporary shelter, food, medical attention and comfort to all abandoned, neglected and injured animals brought to us by the community; to restore lost animals to their owners or seek new homes for them, and to educate the public about the humane care of animals with a goal of reducing overpopulation.* Today the organization's annual budget is approximately \$3 million dollars, with two

locations (one in the East End of Pittsburgh and one in Verona), 60 employees and approximately 300 dedicated volunteers. The Animal Rescue League also has a dedicated 16 member board of directors, an active advisory board, and an endowment that helps offset the organization's operational expenses.

The Animal Rescue League's future is a bright one. Plans include expanding their organizational capacity and ability to serve more animals. When asked about the organization's future and the new leadership Mrs. Elliott stated, *"Dan has the experience to lead the Animal Rescue League into a new era of commitment to improving the lives of the unwanted and homeless animals that we take into our shelter every day."*

The executive search was completed with the assistance of nonprofit consulting firm Dewey & Kaye, and a dedicated and tireless search committee comprised of members of the Board of Directors.

More information about the ARL can be found by visiting <http://www.animalrescue.org>

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