

Grant ID: 78

Title of Proposal: Spay and Stay (Feral Cat)

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$18,000.00

Check Payable To: Alaqua Animal Refuge

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Alaqua Animal Refuge	Website Address: www.AlaquaAnimalRefuge.com
Person Submitting Proposal: Laurie Hood	Position: President
Organization Business Address: 914 Whitfield Road	City: Freeport
State: FL	Zip: 32439
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 850-880-6399	Fax: 850-835-5665
Cell: 850-685-0288	Email Address: lh@lauriehood.com

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/31/07 **End:** 12/01/08

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$220,882.15

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$322,599.94

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 11 Part Time: 1

Number of Active Volunteers: 63

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 90.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Email

Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable): 0

Describe your agency:

Services Provided

- Unlimited Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter
- Foster Network
- Animal Control
- Spay/Neuter Services
- Other

Organization Structure:

- City, county, or tribal agency
- Private nonprofit agency
- Other

List your current board of directors:

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation	Email
Joanne Tudge	Vice President	850-625-1097	Animal Behaviorist	ntudge@aarflorida.com
Laurie Hood	President	850-880-6399	Founder, Alaqua Animal Refuge	lh@lauriehood.com
Lisa Mollitor	Director	850-622-2260	VP, Law Firm	lmollitor@aarflorida.com
Mary Williams	Director	850-231-4408	Veterinarian	amelia373@earthlink.net
Michael Lawson	Director	850-622-2260	Attorney	mike@thelawsonlawfirm.com

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

621 cats and 573 dogs were admitted.

443 cats and 428 dogs were adopted.

8 cats and 13 dogs were euthanized.

804 cats and 633 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

S.N.A.P. (Spay Neuter Assistance Program): Provides assistance for low-income families for sterilization in Walton County. Spay and Stay: Feral cat program designed for individuals willing to care for a colony of animals. Grace's Fund: Provides help for abused animals who are in need of medical treatment. Black Dog Society: This Alaqua-related organization was created to raise awareness for what is commonly referred to in the field of animal-rescue as "black dog syndrome." Across the country, black dogs are often overlooked in shelters for a variety of reasons and rescuers struggle to combat this challenge. AARK (Alaqua Animal Refuge Kids: AARK gives kids hands-on experience through a new community-based service organization dedicated to teaching children the value of protecting animals and giving back to their community. Guardian Angel: Created to inform and solicit donations from the community to help some of the neediest animals that come to the Alaqua Animal Refuge. We not only find the animals new homes, but we make sure these animals get the medical care, time and attention needed to heal. "Partners", a Senior Citizen/Special Needs Pet Program: Any senior in need of a companion animal or special needs persons requesting pets for service or companionship can apply for a free pet courtesy of AAR. Seniors no longer able to keep an AAR pet are guaranteed that we will take the animal back at any time.

If your program performs adoptions, are all animals sterilized before adoption?

No

If not all, what percentage of animals are not currently sterilized before adoption?

10-15 %

If not all, how are animals selected for sterilization before adoption?

Only the 8-12 week old animals are not sterilized before adoption as there are no vets in our area willing to do the surgery.

If not all, describe your sterilization policies and procedures for assuring sterilization after adoption:

We adopt the animals with a contract and pre-paid certificate for sterilization. Our volunteer team follows up with the new home to verify that the surgery has been done and that the proof is sent into the refuge.

Give additional background information on your organization's programs as they relate to this application and the qualifications of the personnel who will be in charge of this program. Show that you have the ability to carry out this program.

The refuge has an assigned employee that enters in all data and applications into our accounting program, QuickBooks. We are then able to run weekly reports which include number of procedures done and monies spent.

If you currently have a program for sterilization of cats and/or dogs, describe your current level of funding and productivity and why additional resources are needed?

We allow \$15,600 per year of fundraising money to cover the SNAP Program and \$6,000 per year for the "Spay and Stay" program. We applied for and received a grant for SNAP for 2009 for the amount of \$31,200 and a grant for "Spay and Stay" for 2009 for \$9,000. In the past, we were not able to advertise these programs for lack of funding and now with little advertising, we are currently spending the funds each month. Our goal is to increase the "Spay and Stay" program as the need is tremendous. We are offering two months of free surgeries for our community, starting with "The Big Fix" for felines during the month of April to help control this year's "kitten season". Our goal is to sterilize 500 cats this month alone. We plan on doing another event later in the

year which will include dogs and cats. Vet participation is high and we are in need of funds to continue this program.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Walton County
Total human population in target area:	51,355
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	11.5
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	15563
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	12839
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	8560
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	2001
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1935
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	3008 dogs and cats
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	3008 dogs and cats
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.	
Currently we contract with the animal control to take animals before hitting the shelter but currently target the same area. However, there are multiple surrounding counties with no programs in place and we hope to create a model that we can then transfer to those areas.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:	
We are a young organization which began 2 years ago to fulfill a need in our community. Before we started there was no one in the area providing services or even a shelter. We believe the lack of previous adoption programs, accessible spay and neuter programs, foster networks to help with young animals and an adoption program is the cause of so many animals being euthanized and breeding uncontrollably.	
What kinds of spay/neuter services are currently available in the target area and in what ways are these resources currently insufficient to meet community needs?	
We have the only programs, which are SNAP, "Spay and Stay" and "The Big Fix". Lack of funding is our only drawback.	
Florida Animal Friend is highly supportive of proposals that are focused on animal populations that are identified as substantial sources of dog or cat overpopulation rather than being diluted over too broad of a geographic area or diverse animal populations. Describe the specific target animal population of the spay/neuter project proposed for this grant:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input type="checkbox"/> Especially difficult or unique animal overpopulation sources <input type="checkbox"/> Pit bull dogs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feral cats <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special spay/neuter event <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Objectives

What do you hope to accomplish with these funds (objectives should be specific and quantifiable)?

We would like to expand our "Stay and Spay" feral cat program. Our area is a beach, tourist community and several large communities have requested our assistance in running a feral cat program. We have the program in place and with funds would be able to increase the amount of animals sterilized and advertise the program.

How does this program increase the number of sterilization surgeries above the existing baseline?

We average \$42 for the cost of feline sterilization. If the \$18,000 was granted, we would be able to provide approximately 429 surgeries.

Methods

What criteria will you use to determine eligibility for the program?

The colony must be maintained by a committed group of volunteers who agree to care for and monitor the animals. The landowner will be required to grant permission to operate the program. All cats must be humanely trapped, sterilized, administered FeLeuk/FIV tests, vaccinated and released in the same area. A foster network will be provided for orphaned, underaged kittens and those kittens will be placed up for adoption if friendly, otherwise they will be sterilized and returned to the colony.

How will you advertise the program? Explain how the advertising will reach the target audience.

We currently utilize all types of media, including web promotion, newspaper and radio, television and free web-based programs such as Facebook, You Tube, and My Space. In addition, we circulate flyers in all vet clinics, feed stores, and other local businesses. We have ongoing community outreach programs which include meeting with local groups, businesses and homeowner associations to educate them on the importance of our programs. We will target the same groups to facilitate the "Spay and Stay" program.

How will you address barriers to full use of the program such as transportation, illiteracy, and cultural hurdles?

We have volunteers willing to help transport for those in need. We also have bilingual staff and volunteers that can communicate with those in need.

Does this project involve the transportation of animals by someone other than the client? If so, describe the vehicles, methods for confinement, personnel training, liability releases used to assure the safety of the animals and handlers.

No

Veterinary Services

Objectives

What arrangements have you made with veterinarians to perform the surgeries?

We offer all vets the opportunity to participate in our programs. Every vet in the county participates in SNAP, most vets in the county and surrounding counties will participate in "Spay and Stay" and "The Big Fix".

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Aidmore Animal Clinic	450 Baldwin Avenue	Defuniak Springs	FL	32433	850-892-5435	<input type="checkbox"/>
Airport Vet Clinic	900 Airport Road	Destin	FL	32541	850-837-3227	<input type="checkbox"/>
At Home Vet Services	PO Box 126	Shalimar	FL	32579	850-543-7952	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barry Veterinary Hospital	29 South Shore Drive	Destin	FL	32550	850-837-7072	<input type="checkbox"/>

Destin Animal Clinic	4003 Commons Drive	Destin	FL	32541	850-837-2931	<input type="checkbox"/>
Freeport Vet Clinic	907 Hwy. 20 East	Freeport	FL	32439	850-835-0035	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kindness Pet Hospital	6744 W. Hwy. 30A	Santa Rosa Beach	FL	32459	850-267-0340	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Cat Clinic of Destin	4421 Commons Drive	Destin	FL	32541	850-269-2287	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walton County Animal Clinic	1640 Hwy 90 East	Defuniak Springs	FL	32433	850-892-5874	<input type="checkbox"/>

Fee Range

What is the fee range to be paid for spay and neuter and what is the distribution to be paid by the client vs. the grant program? Keep in mind that Florida Animal Friend grant funds may only be used for costs directly associated with sterilization surgery (including anesthesia and pain control) and not for other items such as vaccines, testing, licensing, and capital purchases.

	Amount Paid by Client	Amount Paid by Project	Total Amount
Range for Male Cats	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Please check each item below to indicate additional services offered at the time of surgery, whether the client is required to pay for them, and if so what the fee is. For example, if an examination is required for surgery but is not charged to the client it would be marked:

Required Yes, Fee to client No

	Required, Optional, or Not Offered			Fee to Client?	
Examination	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Rabbies Vaccination if Due	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Other Vaccination if Due	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Pain Medication	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Parasite Medication	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Testing	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Licensing	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Ear tipping	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Other	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes

If necessary, please explain the procedures and fees described above:

We partner with local vets to have low cost testing and vaccines for the animals and raise outside funds to support the program. If a cat tests positive for FeLeuk/FIV it is humanely euthanized.

Is this a voucher program? If so, how will you assure compliance with the program?

no

Other Information

Provide any additional information that will help the grant selection committee understand how the program will operate to achieve its goals.

Our current operating standards are in place to properly track, fund and continue the program which is already in place. The

program is currently run by trained, certified volunteers and as it expands, recruitment will take place to ensure the success of the program. We will also enlist the support of the community by educational methods and community outreach.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 429 **Dogs:** 0

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$18,000.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$42.00

Describe any expenses that are not included in the grant and how they will be paid for:

Additional vet services costs are obtained by fundraising events, sponsorships and donations. The plan would be to determine the areas most needed, determine a budget for each and utilize the holiday season to raise funds for the balance of the program.

Timeline

All projects must be completed within 12 months of receipt of funding. Any unexpended funds must be refunded to Florida Animal Friend within 30 days of the end of the project. Requests for time extensions must be made in writing at least 30 days prior to the end of the project. Funding for accepted projects will be available after August 1, 2009.

Projected start date: 08/01/09/ **Projected end date:** 08/01/10

Future Funding

Explain how the organization plans to fund this program in the future. Having plans beyond "seeking funds from other funders" enhances the chances of receiving this grant.

Because there is not an existing program other than ours (which is only two years old), our goal is to start with sterilizing as many animals as we can, track the progress and success, obviously request additional funding from the local government and other grants after success is proven and to seek ongoing community support.

Promotion of Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate

Applicants selected for funding are expected to publicize their grant in support of their spay/neuter program via press releases, newsletters, website links, etc. In addition, they are expected to promote the sales of license plates so that additional spay/neuter grants can be funded. Please describe your plan to promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate.

Awareness would be key in showing citizens first hand what their license plate choice can provide. We have a tremendous following and will be featured next year on a documentary to be aired on national television following the progress of a no-kill organization's efforts to reduce the number of animals euthanized in an area where no other programs exists. A key component of this movement is the feral cat program and we plan to announce how that funding was acquired. All members, supporters, viewers and the community can see how one person can make a difference. We plan to use our AARK program (for children) to promote the license plate as well, as they are always looking for ways to promote our cause. This might include creating materials to take home to the parents to promote the plate and being onsite at events to inform the public of the cause.