

Grant ID: 1466

**Title of Proposal:** Spay/Neuter of Low-Income Residents

**Agency Type:** Non-Profit

**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00

**Check Payable To:** SPCA Florida

Application Information

Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** SPCA Florida

**Website Address:** www.spcflorida.org

**Person Submitting Proposal:** Jessica Whitehouse

**Position:** Director of Philanthropy

**Agency Head:** Adam Stanfield

**Agency Head Email:** astanfield@spcaflorida.org

**Organization Business Address:** 5850 Branned Road S

**City:** Lakeland

**State:** FL

**Zip:** 33813

**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 863-646-7722

**Fax:** 863-646-4607

**Cell:** 407-342-8876

**Email Address:** jwhitehouse@spcaflorida.org

Agency Details

**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/13 **End:** 12/31/13

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$6,606,752.00

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$6,275,764.00

**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 80 Part Time: 5

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 400

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 595.00

**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Previously funded.

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

**Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2011 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 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
- TNR Group
- Rescue Group

**List your current board of directors:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Email</b>
Barb Weber	Board Member	321-263-6325	Disney's Animal Kingdom	bweber17@tampabay.rr.com
Bob Cattarius	Board Member	863-640-5653	Retired	bcat17@gmail.com
Brenda Joyce-Shrom	Board Member	863-701-3098	Retired	bjoy2005@tampabay.rr.com
Cal Arter	Board Member	570-660-2417	Service Oil Company	winstonwoof1@gmail.com
David Thompson	Treasurer	610-657-3604	CPA	davemt34@hotmail.com
John Fitzwater	Board Member	863-738-1975	Retired	fitzclip@gmail.com
Julie Davis	Assistant Treasurer	863-701-7834	CPA	juliedavis918@gmail.com
Karen Lukhaub	Board Member	863-834-6799	City of Lakeland	karen.lukhaub@lakelandgov.net
Karen Mitchell	Vice President	863-648-2825	Investigator	kmspca@gmail.com
Laura Lear	Secretary	863-688-3440	Financial Advisor	Laura.Lear@edwardjones.com
Liz Piotrowski	President	863-602-9256	Retired	liz.spca@gmail.com
Mary Stephens	Director	863-646-6403	Retired	maryspca@gmail.com
Pete Palmer	Vice President	863-607-9994	Retired	petepalmer1@yahoo.com
Ralph Schofield, Jr.	Board Member	863-647-5337	Attorney	rschofield@clarkcampbell-law.com
Ramona Blankinship	Board Member	863-687-7737	Attorney	rlblawfirm@aol.com

**Applicant Qualifications**

**For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:**

**3167 cats and 2677 dogs were admitted.**

**2275 cats and 2306 dogs were adopted.**

**562 cats and 224 dogs were euthanized.**

**9085 cats and 4436 dogs were sterilized.**

**Briefly describe your animal programs:**

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

Yes

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

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

n/a

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

n/a

**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.**

A critical service provided by the SPCA Florida is high-quality, affordable spaying and neutering of dogs and cats to reduce the number of puppies and kittens born without homes. Our team of eight highly-skilled veterinarians utilize state-of-the art equipment to sterilize as many as 75 dogs and cats each day. In 2014, 13,577 animals were spayed/neutered, the highest number in SPCA Florida history: 4,953 owned animals, 3,234 animals admitted to the Adoption Center and 5,390 feral/stray community cats. Animal admissions have declined 50 percent from a high of 10,824 in 2006. This decrease is due, in part, to our emphasis on education and our spay/neuter program. The subsidized cost to sterilize cats is between \$40 and \$50 and the subsidized cost to sterilize dogs is between \$70 and \$125. Families meeting certain needs based income requirements are eligible for \$25 co-pays for cats and \$50 co-pays for dogs.

**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?**

SPCA Florida has a low-cost medical center for owned pets. The subsidized cost to sterilize cats is between \$40 and \$50 and the

subsidized cost to sterilize dogs is between \$70 and \$125. Families meeting certain needs based income requirements are eligible for \$25 co-pays for cats and \$50 co-pays for dogs. The large number of clients utilizing the needs based services is extreme. We feel that in order to adequately reduce the number of pets in our community, we must continue offering these services at a reduced rate to this demographic.

Target Population

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):</b>	Polk County
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	623009
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	18.2%
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	188791
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	155753
<b>Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	103835
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	11039
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	10395
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	7611
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	3289
<b>Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.</b> We believe this is an accurate assessment of our county.	
<b>Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:</b> Spaying and neutering of animals is the most humane and cost-effective form of animal control and will help Polk County Animal Services by preventing the birth of unwanted animals. Polk County is the fourth largest county in Florida and has an overall poverty rate of 18.2%; exceeding the state average of 16.3%. SPCA Florida's spay-neuter-vaccinate program provides an affordable option to low-income qualified clients seeking to have their pets sterilized and vaccinated (clients must have proof of low-income). This program allows SPCA Florida to continue targeting pets whose owners are unable to afford the cost of surgery thereby preventing the overpopulation cycle.	
<b>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?</b> SPCA Florida has a facility that offers low-cost spay-neuter options. There are v	
<b>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:</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input type="checkbox"/> Pit Bull / large breed dogs <input type="checkbox"/> TNR managed colonies of feral cats <input type="checkbox"/> Community cats (free-roaming and/or owned) <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

TNR Managed Colony Feral Cat Program/Community Cats (Free-Roaming and/or Owned) Program

**Define the precise boundaries of the colony or targeted area, including estimate of square miles.**

N/A

**What is the criteria used for determining the target area(s) and/or eligibility for this program?**

N/A

**Describe whether the targeted area is rural, suburban, or urban. Is it commercial, residential, agricultural, or a designated special land use?**

N/A

**Estimated number of cats in the target colony area :** 0

**Estimated number that are currently sterilized:** 0

**Projected reduction after utilizing the grant:** 0

**For TNR program, describe the ability to maintain lifelong care for remaining cats, commitment level of volunteers/organizations, etc.**

N/A

**Detail any public education/outreach, adoption programs, etc.**

**Do current city/county ordinances address TNR or free-roaming cats?**

No

**Please explain what is allowed:**

**(NOTE: FAF will not fund any program this is inconsistent with local ordinances.)**

**For TNR program, list any groups or government agencies who support this TNR effort:**

N/A

**Describe any effort to lessen the negative impact on local wildlife.**

N/A

**Describe efforts that will be made to mitigate current or potential nuisance issues.**

N/A

**Will the cats be ear-tipped?** Yes

**Will the cats be microchipped?** No

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

N/A

## Objectives

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

To respond to the needs stated above, we wish to revive our community and its residents and involve them in reducing the pet overpopulation problem. Our ultimate goal is to significantly reduce the number of unsterilized pets in Polk County. The spay/neuter program goals, and methods related to these goals, are outlined below. Goal: To humanely reduce the number of homeless, unwanted pets in Polk County. 1. Behavioral Objectives: a. Continue fostering relationships with community leaders and our Polk County Sheriff's Office, Animal Services Division and empower them with positive program results we are currently seeing with these programs. b. To establish model programs to be showcased and replicated with community partners, where the pet population is already out of control. c. Continue educating the community about the importance of spaying/neutering pets. 2. Performance Objectives a. In one-year, we will alter 1,000 pets belonging to low-income residents in Polk County. 3. Process Objectives: a. We will document the number of dogs and cats by the number of males, females, pregnant females and females in heat in each targeted area. b. We will monitor annual statistics among SPCA Florida and Polk County Animal Services, including total impound/intake

numbers, stray pet impound/intake numbers, euthanasia rates, and adoption rates. c. Evaluate results to determine success in our efforts.

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

For the last two years, we have seen a decrease in intake numbers at our facility and our local animal services. This grant would enable us to provide surgery services for approximately 625 animals, bringing the total of more than 1,125 animals that would be serviced by the program next year. Not only would make this make a significant impact on our operation by decreasing the number of animals through our doors, but it would put us in a good position to move the program toward perpetuity as we would feel comfortable advertising and marketing the program aggressively. This will result in more community support and additional community funding.

**Methods**

**What criteria will you use to determine eligibility for your program?**

To qualify for reduced prices for SPCA Florida spay and neuter services for dogs and cats, the animal guardian must demonstrate proof of participating in one of the following needs-based public assistance programs: Children’s Health Insurance Plan (CHIP), Major VA Disability, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Social Security Disability (SSD), Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), HUD Section 8 Housing, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) – Formerly AFDC.

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

SPCA Florida is fortunate in that its media (radio, TV, print) relationships have been in place for more than 35 years. Details of these programs are display on our website. With the significant increase in interest among social media, we are able to provide continuous medical center updates to the public. At this time, we have more than 27,000 fans on our Facebook page. Additionally, we will send our registered email recipient list periodic promotion emails encouraging them to mention the spay-neuter services to co-workers and friends. Word of mouth is a very strong component to helping spread the word about this program.

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

Qualified applicants must use their own vehicles or public transportation to bring their pet to our low cost spay-neuter clinic. We have collateral printed in English and in Spanish as well as have staff members in our phone room and medical center office that speak Spanish.

**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.**

Clients are responsible for transportation of the pets. Clients that may be elderly or homebound can receive transportation to and from for their pet through our Ani-Meals program.

**Veterinary Services**


**Objectives**

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

We have eight full-time veterinarians on staff that are available to perform surgeries.

Are they:  In-house  Private Vet(s)  Combination

**Veterinary Practices**

<u>Practice Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Lead Practice</u>
SPCA Florida	5850 Branned Road S	Lakeland	FL	33813	863-646-7722	

**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
<b>Range for Male Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>
<b>Range for Female Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>
<b>Range for Male Dogs</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>
<b>Range for Female Dogs</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>

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?
<b>Examination</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Rabies Vaccination if Due</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$14.00"/>
<b>Other Vaccination if Due</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$20.00"/>
<b>Pain Medication</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Parasite Medication</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$12.00"/>
<b>Testing</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$24.00"/>
<b>Licensing</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Ear tipping</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Other</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>

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

Other fee may include \$25 charge for in heat or pregnant cat or dog.

**Is this a voucher program?** No

**If so, how will you assure compliance with the program?**

**For your voucher program, how have you determined the capacity of the veterinarians listed above to handle the projected capacity?**

**Will you have the ability to report the number of vouchers issued and the percentage that result in S/N surgeries?**

### Community Collaboration

To assure the success of your program, are there any local groups (such as rescue groups, animal control agencies, TNR groups, local businesses, local media, social service agencies, etc.) other than your organization and your cooperating veterinarians who are committed to assist?

Yes  No

Please list them and detail their level of involvement with the proposed effort.

Name	Level of Involvement
Board of County Commissioners	The Polk County Board of County Commissioners support low-income spay/neuter services and provided \$25,000 to this program in 2014.
Polk County Sheriff's Office, Animal Services Division	We work closely with our Polk County Sheriff's Office Animal Services Division. In 2014, we transferred 1,246 pets from PCAS to SPCA Florida. They are supportive of this community initiative.

**Other Information**

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

SPCA Florida has provided spay/neuter services to low-income residents in Polk County for 35 years. We have gained an understanding of our community and have established relationships with many government officials, organizations, and individuals. This gives us the ability to successfully reduce the number of unwanted puppies and kittens from individuals not able to afford these services otherwise. This funding would be a great benefit to the community in which we serve.

**Budget**

**Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:**

**Cats:** 250 **Dogs:** 375

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

**Average cost/surgery projected:** \$40.00

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

Rabies vaccine will be required to pets not already vaccinated for \$14. County license fee is included in that price. Other services are available to the client but will not be covered by our grant.

**Describe any expenses that are not included in the grant and how they will be paid for (for example, vaccines, microchipping, ear notching, etc.):**

Rabies vaccine will be required to pets not already vaccinated for \$14. County license fee is included in that price. Other services are available to the client but will not be covered by our grant.

**Describe any other funding sources for this program, i.e. other grants, targeted fundraising efforts, budget allocation, etc.**

In October 2014, the Polk County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) awarded \$25,000 to fund this program for a year. We will have exhausted those funds in October 2015. We have reapplied for additional funding but there is no guarantee that we will be a recipient to their funding. BOCC funding has depleted over the years and it was indicated by the BOCC last year that nonprofits may not receive funding in the future. We have also created direct mail appeals and begun soliciting our donors to help support this cause. The funds have been allocated through our budget as this program fits our core mission of helping people keep their pets and reducing pet overpopulation.

**What percent of the total cost of the program would this projected grant cover?**

50%

**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:** 09/01/15/ **Projected end date:** 08/31/16

**Unexpended funds**

Any unexpended funds must be refunded to Florida Animal Friend within 30 days of the end of the project.

**Requests for extensions**

Requests for time extensions are discouraged and not often granted. If it is imperative to request an extension, such request must be made in writing at least 30 days prior to the end of the project. It is FAF's policy to seldom grant more than a 30-60 day extension.

Failure to submit reports and requests within the required time period will impact your agency's future grant applications.

### Future Funding to Sustain Public Spay/Neuter

**\*Explain how the organization plans to fund this program in the future. Having sustainable plans including other grants, local donations and other services generating revenue enhances the chances of receiving this grant.**

We have / are applying for several grants to administer this program. In October 2014, the Polk County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) awarded \$25,000 to fund our program for a year. We will have exhausted those funds in October 2015. We have reapplied for additional funding but there is no guarantee that we will be a recipient to their funding. BOCC funding has depleted over the years and it was indicated by the BOCC last year that nonprofits may not receive funding in the future. We have also created direct mail appeals and begun soliciting our donors to help support this cause. The funds have been allocated through our budget as this program fits our core mission of helping people keep their pets and reducing pet overpopulation.

### 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 and promote the sale of the Animal Friend license plate via press releases, newsletters, website links, social media, etc. Please describe your plan to promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate. Grantees are required to submit documentation of promotional endeavors.**

In addition to our media efforts which will specifically tag the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate program as the source of funding, we will prominently display the Program and logo with a link to order license plates on our website.