

Grant ID: 1448

Title of Proposal: Big K-9 spay/neuter for low income families
Agency Type: Municipal
Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00
Check Payable To: Osceola county animal services

Application Information

Demographics

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of Applicant Agency: Osceola County Animal Services | Website Address: www.osceolacountypets.com |
| Person Submitting Proposal: Kim Staton | Position: Director |
| Agency Head: Kim Staton | Agency Head Email: kim.staton@osceola.org |
| Organization Business Address: 3910 Old Canoe Creek Rd. | City: St. Cloud |
| State: FL | Zip: 34769 |
| Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 407-742-8000 | Fax: 407-891-1290 |
| Cell: 816-510-5137 | Email Address: kim.staton@osceola.org |

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 10/01/13 **End:** 09/30/14

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$179,000.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$2,100,000.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 32 Part Time: 0

Number of Active Volunteers: 65

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 150.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? From working for HSUS years ago

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 0 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:

| Name | Title | Phone | Occupation | Email |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Brandon Arrington | County Commissioner | 407-742-2000 | attorney | barring@osceola.org |
| Cheryl Grieb | County Commissioner | 407-742-2000 | Realtor | cgrieb@osceola.org |
| Fred Hawkins, Chair | County Commissioner | 407-742-2000 | Progressive Waste Solutions | fhaw@osceola.org |
| Mike Harford | County Commissioner | 407-742-2000 | Underground Utilities Contractor | mhar@osceola.org |
| Viviana Janer | County Commissioner | 407-742-2000 | Corporate Accountant | vjaner@osceola.org |

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

4805 cats and 3987 dogs were admitted.

839 cats and 1380 dogs were adopted.

3588 cats and 1537 dogs were euthanized.

950 cats and 1400 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?

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

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.

We are fortunate to have many staff that have been with animal services for ten or more years. That brings a wealth of knowledge and talent to our organization. The Director has worked in animal welfare for 39 years including four (4) years with the Humane Society of the United States and seven (7) working as an independent Animal Welfare Consultant. In the past two years, Osceola County Animal Services has been transformed from a place of stagnation to being a proactive, forward thinking, progressive organization. In two years we have been able to start our own website and facebook pages, participated in the 100k Challenge the past two summers resulting in the highest number of animals being adopted in the history of this shelter. We have taken our volunteer program from one person to over one hundred and eighty (180) approved and sixty-five (65) active volunteers. We have partnered with other area groups including the Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando to bring limited low cost spay/neuter services to Osceola County pet owners. We are in the process of rebuilding our pet licensing program to include web licensing to make the process easy and convenient for pet owners. Our presence in the community continues to increase through partnerships with Petco and other offsite venues. We are working to become a PetSmart partner organization. Our veterinarian is fully vested in performing all 500 surgeries in-house. She has excellent surgical skills and post operative complications are almost non-existent even though she has done thousands. We are fully capable of operating this program with a high level of success given the various skills, talents, and resources we have.

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?

Provisions for low cost or free spay/neuter in Osceola County are extremely limited. We have an agreement with the Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando to bring their mobile spay/neuter unit to our shelter one day per week. This program has been in place since February 2014. We are also working with the Pet Alliance on a GIS targeted spay/neuter program in the City of St. Cloud. This program is limited to cats that live in the targeted area. Other than these two small programs, we don't currently have other provisions for low cost spay/neuter in Osceola County. The average cost of spay/neuter via local veterinary practitioners is \$250.00 which is cost prohibitive for many pet owners. We are working with a non-profit group called, Protectors of Companion Animals, to bring a high volume, high quality, low cost Humane Alliance modeled clinic to Osceola County. Unfortunately, the timeframe for that clinic to open is uncertain at this time. Most of our existing funding comes from the general fund tax base at approximately 2.2 million per year. We intake over 9,000 animals and provide enforcement of the local animal code for entire county which is over

1,500 square miles making us the sixth largest county in Florida. We respond to approximately 900 calls for service each month in addition to providing many follow-up visits. Funding covers the basic day to day operations but does little to exceed that level of operation.

Target Population

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.): | Osceola County |
| Total human population in target area: | 285,000 |
| Percent of residents living below poverty in target area: | 19.4% |
| Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3): | 86364 |
| Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0): | 71250 |
| Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0): | 47500 |
| Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known) | 4,805 |
| Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known) | 3,977 |
| Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known) | 3,588 |
| Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known) | 1,537 |
| Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. We do not believe there is any reason to think these estimates are off. However, since this program will be limited to low income families, the targeted pet owner and pet audience will be much smaller. | |
| Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: Dogs: Intact dogs allowed to run loose and breed indiscriminately. Breeders who have surplus animals. Cats: Community cats that are being fed but not spayed/neutered and are allowed to reproduce. | |
| 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? Spay/neuter services are limited to the Pet Alliance bringing their mobile unit here one day per week. We are booked through May. And we have one other targeted cat spay/neuter program with the Pet Alliance which will end in 6 months. We are working with another group to bring a fixed high volume, low cost clinic to Osceola County. | |
| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input checked="" 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.

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

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

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area :

Estimated number that are currently sterilized:

Projected reduction after utilizing the grant:

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

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

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

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:

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

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

Will the cats be ear-tipped?

Will the cats be microchipped?

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

Objectives

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

We plan on getting 500 medium to large sized dogs spayed/neutered in the targeted audience that otherwise would not be. This will reduce the number of litters and medium to large sized dogs coming into our shelter. The vast majority of dogs that are euthanized at our shelter are over 40 pounds, approximately 90%. We also find that even though smaller dogs are involved in bites, they usually don't inflict severe injuries. We know that by reducing the number of medium to large dogs in our community we will start seeing a reduction in severe bites and attacks. We track bite, intake, adoption, rescue, and euthanasia numbers closely and will be able to determine any reductions in these areas as it relates to this program. Since these surgeries will be done in-house, owner and pet information will be entered into the shelter database allowing us to determine if we have any violations in the future related to animals we have s/n through this program.

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

Without these funds, these 500 dogs will not get spayed/neutered. Since this program is limited to low income families, it is highly doubtful they would ever have the funds to pay the average cost of spay/neuter which is \$250.00

Methods

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

Services will be available to individuals or families that are already receiving government assistance such as food stamps, WIC, TANF, Section 8, etc. Dogs will weigh 40 pounds or more.

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

We will promote the program on our facebook page and website and will also send out a press release hoping to get media coverage. We have several partners we work with such as WMMO radio and will ask them to post the information on their pet guide website as well. Animal Control Officers can provide information about the program as they respond to call for service in the field. We will collaborate with Osceola County Human Services and the Council on Aging in an effort to identify low income families and individuals who may qualify for this program.

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

Transportation: We will use staff and volunteers to assist pet owners who need transportation. We have several vehicles at animal services that can be used for this purpose. We can also use our Animal Control Officers as a resource for transportation. Illiteracy: We will work closely with various county programs in an effort to reach this population. Radio public service announcements are another option we will explore and we can likely do some limited paid advertising as well.

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.

Yes, it may. Anyone who transports an animal for this program will be well trained in animal handling and safe and humane animal transportation. We will have pet owners sign a transportation and surgical waiver in order to access the transportation program.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

Most of these surgeries will be performed in-house by our veterinarian. Surgeries will be worked into the schedule for adopted animals. There is also a likelihood that some of these surgeries will be completed by the Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando through an existing agreement.

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> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Osceola County Animal Services | 3910 Old Canoe Creek Rd. | St. Cloud | FL | 34746 | 407-742-8000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando | 2727 Conroy Rd. | Orlando | FL | 32839 | 407-351-7722 | <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 | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> |
| Range for Female Cats | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> |
| Range for Male Dogs | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$50.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$50.00"/> |
| Range for Female Dogs | <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? |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Examination | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes |
| Rabies 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 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="\$15.00"/> |
| 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 type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$10.00"/> |
| Testing | <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="\$15.00"/> |
| Licensing | <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"/> |
| Ear tipping | <input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" 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:

All animals that are not current on rabies vaccination will receive one at the time of surgery for no additional fee. Pain medication will also be provided at no additional fee. Services beyond this will be available for a low cost fee to the owner.

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 |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Council on Aging | The Council will help identify low income elderly residents who own pets in need of spay/neuter and help make them aware of this program. |
| Osceola County Human Services | This department will help identify low income families with pets and make them aware of this program. |
| Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando | Will provide spay/neuter surgeries as appointments are available on Mondays when they are here with their mobile unit. We will work to provide additional days for spay/neuter services for this program. |
| Protectors of Companion Animals | Will assist with promoting and marketing the program. |

Other Information

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

We will have many venues to promote this program to low income families and will work with our Human Resources Department in Osceola County to help identify low income families that have pets. We will do the same with the Council on Aging. By collaborating with other organizations and working internally, we are confident we will be able to successfully perform 500 canine surgeries that would otherwise not be performed. We will have the resources to market the program widely, provide transportation when needed, and make this a huge success for these animals and pet owners.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 0 **Dogs:** 500

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$50.00

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

Services beyond spay/neuter, rabies vaccination and pain meds will be the responsibility of the owner. In situations where owners may be experiencing special circumstances, funds may be available through the animal services small donation account. We will continue to write grants and solicit donations to supplement services.

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

Services beyond spay/neuter, rabies vaccination and pain meds will be the responsibility of the owner. In situations where owners may be experiencing special circumstances, funds may be available through the animal services small donation account. We will continue to write grants and solicit donations to supplement services.

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

There is no other money designated for the this program, however, if additional funds are needed we will engage fundraising activities and donation solicitations. Limited funds would be available from our donation account.

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

100%

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: 06/01/15/ **Projected end date:** 05/31/16

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 will continue to fundraise, write for grants and solicit donations. We are hoping the high volume, low cost clinic will be opened within the next year and a half and all pet licensing revenues we generate for the next four years will go to support the clinic. The clinic will have the ability to perform up to 6,500 surgeries the first year. After the initial four year period, our licensing revenues will

continue to be used to support provisions for other low/no cost spay/neuter services and efforts.

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.**

We will post to our website and facebook pages and send out a press release regarding the grant and to support the Florida Animal Friend license plate. All promotional materials used to market the program will reference the Animal Friend plate and encourage people to purchase it.