

Grant ID: 1447

Title of Proposal: This is the Dog! Spay/Neuter Foundation

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$10,000.00

Check Payable To: This is the Dog!

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: This is the Dog!

Website Address: www.thisisthedog.com

Person Submitting Proposal: Charelle Burgess

Position: Lead Volunteer

Agency Head: Barbara St. Aubin

Agency Head Email: Adopt@thisisthedog.com

Organization Business Address: 44 NE 16th Street

City: Homestead

State: Florida

Zip: 33030

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 305-608-4026

Fax: 305-247-9127

Cell: 305-608-4026

Email Address: charelle@thisisthedog.com

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/01/14 **End:** 12/31/14

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$49,000.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$52,000.00

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

Number of Active Volunteers: 25

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 300.00

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

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: n/a Year(s) denied/incomplete: n/a

Describe your agency:

Services Provided

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

Organization Structure:

- City, county, or tribal agency
- Private nonprofit agency
- Other
- TNR Group
- Rescue Group

Other assist low-income pet owners

List your current board of directors:

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation	Email
Barbara St. Aubin	President	305-799-2227	Librarian	adopt@thisisthedog.com
Carmela St. Aubin	Secretary/Treasurer	305-247-2227	Retired	jstaubin@st-aubin.com
Joe St. Aubin	Vice President	305-205-2227	Computer Technician	jstaubin@st-aubin.com

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

22 cats and 190 dogs were admitted.

25 cats and 175 dogs were adopted.

1 cats and 1 dogs were euthanized.

30 cats and 350 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?

0

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

all animals sterilized before adoption

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.

We have been running a low cost and free spay and neuter program since May 2014. This program was our pilot spay/neuter foundation program and with it we sterilized over 300 community pets, plus our foster dogs and cats. We anticipate being able to keep running this same program with the grant funds if awarded. The volunteer who will be in charge of the continued spay/neuter foundation program will be Charelle Burgess. Charelle has been successfully working with area veterinarians for twenty years and has been helping to organize the Miami Dade County mobile animal clinic for the last five years. She has the ability and contacts in the area to continue to run this program. Each year we find new avenues to reach more needy pets and pet owners and have now established price programs with area vets. Charelle is dedicated to the animals of Homestead, Florida and the surrounding areas. She can manage a budget as well as deal with and organize appointments. With her masters degree in Education, Charelle also attends area schools for Career Day with her Therapy Dog and does Humane Education monthly to teach the importance of proper pet care and emphasis on sterilization.

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 had a pilot program for local pet owners to access low cost or free spay/neuter services starting in May of 2014. This program was entirely funded with \$20,000 raised at our Putt Fore Paws charity golf tournament. These funds have since been spent on the sterilization of nearly 400 animals in the community. We will continue to acquire donations to run our program and keep informing low income residents about this program and other local county services available to them. The additional resources needed are more funds to continue to provide help to a much needed demographic area of deep south Dade county.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Homestead, Florida City, Cutler Bay, Miami-Dade County, Miami area, 33030
Total human population in target area:	100,000

Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	47% in Florida City, 30% in Homestead
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	30304
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	25000
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	16667
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	2,000
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	27,000
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	90%
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	60%

Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.

This seems correct. Our area has a high population of stray animals so we are not sure how to account for those that are homeless. The homeless population of animals seen on the street of Homestead or near the Everglades are unreported yet we are rescuing them on a daily basis.

Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:

Lack of low-cost spay/neuter programs in the deep south Miami-Dade county area. Also lack of education about the importance of spay/neuter. There are no veterinarians in Florida City, Florida and the closest low-cost Humane Society of Greater Miami is twenty miles away and not accessible by bus.

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?

None, other than once a month we have been able to get the county to send down its mobile unit to spay/neuter 20 dogs, under 50 lbs only. No cats. We have partnered with local vets to try and make this available to more than 20 dogs a month. We used our last years fundraising money for spay and neuter of 300+ dogs and several cats in 10 months as free or low-cost to pet owners and foster pet parents.

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:

Pets in low-income families Pit Bull / large breed dogs TNR managed colonies of feral cats Community cats (free-roaming and/or owned) 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)?

The goal of This is the Dog! is to spay and neuter as many community pets and foster pets as possible. Cats and dogs that are either in foster care with approved rescue groups or are owned by community citizens. We can offer these services as low-cost or free to qualifying pet owners. Primarily to those on low or fixed income. However we find there is a gap in those that do not qualify for low-income but still cannot afford a private veterinary practice to sterilize their pets. We will offer the services on a sliding pay scale or donation basis to meet these needs. In our experience most pet owners can afford the \$55 reduced cost of sterilization which will be placed back into our funds to continue to keep our program running.

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

As of now there is no low cost option in is area. Florida City has zero veterinarians. The county, at our request, sends a mobile unit once a month to sterilize 20 dogs that are under 50 lbs. So far there is no equivalent for large dogs or cats. We will fill that void using our partner vets at Bravo Animal Clinic as well as with Project PetSnip. Also the mobile unit has a waiting list for months in advance. With our partner vets we are able to send pets to them on-demand or with short appointment schedules to achieve our goal much quicker. Also our partner vets will sterilize dogs and cats of all sizes.

Methods

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

Anyone who has a pet in need of sterilization will be allowed eligibility to our program. Those who can afford to pay will be required to make a donation to go directly back into the fund. We will request a \$55 donation but can offer this on a sliding scale to those with limited funds. Those who have proof of low-income or government assistance will be allowed to have pets sterilized for free.

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

We have a great relationship with our community newspapers, both the South Dade Newsleader and the Miami Herald. We also hand out flyers at our bi-monthly Petco events. Thursday nights we talk on a radio program with Thunder Country 100.3 and we visit local schools doing Humane Education talks. There is also a twice a month BARK Club that three volunteers run for

elementary aged children to learn about the importance of pet care and spay/neuter programs. We have 4,000 plus following on Facebook as well. We will advertise with all of these outlets including flyers around town and at local businesses that support our cause. Our partner vets also participate in helping us advertise. So far we have no shortage of pets in need, only a shortage of funding the program to meet these needs.

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

Our volunteers drive pets to/from vet offices for surgery when a person is unable. We have Spanish speaking volunteers who communicate with those who do not speak English. We also try and educate local school children as well as our teenage volunteers at our Petco events and other local events we host or participate in. If additional education is needed we have a certified Vet Tech who can call and talk with hesitant pet owners. We are a compassionate group who have only the best interest of the pets in mind and all our adult volunteers are on board with our goal of our spay/neuter efforts in the community.

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 have several partnerships with several vets. Bravo Animal Clinic has a set fee for all our dog surgeries. Based on the size from small dogs to larger the set fee for a simple sterilization is \$55-100. For cats we issue Cat Network certificates for \$30. We also work with Project PetSnip to partner on low-income pet owners who have proof of government assistance. For those pets, This is the Dog! pays a co-pay of \$20 per dog and \$10 per cat.

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

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Bravo Animal Clinic	10901 SW 186th Stree	Miami	FL	33157	305-234-9422	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
English Plaza Animal Hospital	600 English Ave	Homestead	FL	33030	305-248-6536	<input type="checkbox"/>
Homestead Animal Hospital	1250 North Flagler Avenue	Homestead	FL	33030	305-247-3845	<input type="checkbox"/>
Humane Society of Greater Miami	10700 SW 211 Street	Miami	FL	33189	305-749-1854	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project PetSnip	1250 N Flagler Ave	Homestead	FL	33030	305-387-0721	<input checked="" 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="\$30.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$30.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$30.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$30.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$55.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$55.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$55.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$55.00"/>

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 type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input style="width: 80px;" type="text" value="\$25.00"/>
Rabies 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 style="width: 80px;" type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
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 style="width: 80px;" type="text" value="\$20.00"/>
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 style="width: 80px;" type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
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 style="width: 80px;" type="text" value="\$25.00"/>
Licensing <input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input style="width: 80px;" type="text" value="\$27.00"/>
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 recommend that all pets be brought up to date with vaccines during time of surgery but it is up to the pet owner and vet clinic if this is deemed necessary. If so, the pet owner will be responsible for these costs.

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
Chain of Love	promote our program to pet owners and use our resources for fostered and adopted pets
City of Homestead	Donate funds to our cause and promote our events and clinics
Fairy Tales Rescue	Promote our program to pet owners and use our resources for fostered and adopted pets
Homestead	

Homestead Animal Hospital	Hosts bi-monthly clinics for Project PetSnip and advertises in their facility
Miami Dade Animal Services	provide mobile unit
Petco	We are Petco partners and host twice monthly adoption events at our local Homestead Petco since 2009. We occasionally received funds from the Petco Foundation.
Project PetSnip	schedule weekly clinics based on demand
South Dade Newsleader	Free advertisement
The Cat Network	Utilize Cat Network spay/neuter certificates and partner vets
Thunder Country 100.3 radio	Free advertisement

Other Information

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

We have been running our program since May 2014 from a successful golf tournament event. With those funds we successfully sterilized over 300 pets on a limited budget with much community support. Our veterinarians have been established with us for over five years and we have a wonderful reputation in the community. Pet owners in need of sterilization for pets come to us for help with getting their pets "fixed" and we have found a need that should be filled in this underserved community. We look forward to continuing to serving the pets of Homestead, Florida City and deep south Miami-Dade county.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 35 **Dogs:** 150

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$10,000.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$55.00

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

Additional services for female dogs or cats in heat (\$20), hernia surgery (varies), pregnant dogs (\$20), extra pain medication (\$25) These additional services will be paid for by the general This is the Dog! bank account funds

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

Additional services for female dogs or cats in heat (\$20), hernia surgery (varies), pregnant dogs (\$20), extra pain medication (\$25) These additional services will be paid for by the general This is the Dog! bank account funds

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

Fundraising efforts at our community events will off set additional costs.

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: 08/03/15/ **Projected end date:** 08/01/16

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.**

This is the Dog! volunteers have funded this program in the past by fundraising at our largest event, Putt Fore Paws golf tournament. We raised \$20,000. We will continue to fundraise for this program when time permits. Also, donations specifically ear-marked for spay/neuter funds will be placed in this account to stretch the funds for helping as many dogs and cats as possible.

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 have a great relationship with local newspapers, television stations, and radio stations. We will advertise where ever and whenever possible. We also have a fan base of 4,300+ on facebook and we attend bi-month events at Petco, we are Petco parnters. Advertising will be easy and often. It will be our pleasure to encourage patron to purchase the Florida Animal Friend license tag. (Most of our volunteers already have them!)