

Grant ID: 1645

**Title of Proposal:** Full Circle Community Cat Program

**Agency Type:** Non-Profit

**Total Funding Requested:** \$24,975.00

**Check Payable To:** Cat Depot

### Application Information

### Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** Cat Depot

**Website Address:** http://www.catdepot.org

**Person Submitting Proposal:** Maria Sadowski

**Position:** Communication's Specialist

**Agency Head:** Shelley Thayer

**Agency Head Email:** shelleyt@catdepot.org

**Organization Business Address:** 2542 17th St

**City:** Sarasota

**State:** FL

**Zip:** 34234

**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 941-366-2404

**Fax:** 941-366-2407

**Cell:** 941-448-4156

**Email Address:** marias@catdepot.org

### Agency Details

**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 07/01/14 **End:** 06/30/15

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$4,834,253.00

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$1,472,383.00

**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 28 Part Time: 1

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 179

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 456.00

**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Previous recipient

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

**Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2014, 2010, 2008 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2013, 2012, 2011, 2009

### Describe your agency:

#### Services Provided

- Unlimited Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter
- Foster Network
- Animal Control
- Spay/Neuter Services
- Other Education/Training Center, Commu

#### 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
Ken Slavin	President	941-504-6820	Retired	info@catdepot.org
Linda Slavin	Vice President	941-387-0553	Consultant	info@catdepot.org
Michael Siegel	Secretary	941-365-0550	Attorney	msiegel@lpspa.com

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

**1430 cats and 0 dogs were admitted.**

**1332 cats and 0 dogs were adopted.**

**122 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.**

**1648 cats and 0 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.**

Cat Depot's Community Cat program started in 2011. The program's goal is to TNVR colony, community, and free-roaming cats, and income-qualified personal pets. The program also gathers information, tracks community cat colonies, and supports colony and personal pet care. A fund was established in 2015 to provide medical care for injured and sick community cats and personal pets. We also have a community food bank that gives out an average of 1,627 pounds of dry food and 730 cans of wet food each month to support pet safety net practices of keeping cats in homes when food or medical care is an issue. Every month, Cat Depot feeds approximately 240 personal pets and over 500 community cats. In November 2014, Cat Depot opened a low-cost cat care clinic where TNVR services are provided five days a week, with emphasis on TNVR Tuesdays. In 2015, the clinic neutered 670 cats and spayed 608 cats. In addition, we provided free or discount spay and neuter services for the public, which included 199 spays at \$50 and 171 neuters at \$40. Cat Depot loans traps to the public seven days a week and trains individuals on humane trapping procedures. We also have a trapping team that not only responds to calls, but works with existing colonies and newly discovered colonies. The objective is to assign a colony care giver, spay/neuter all cats, check for any cats who may be suffering or need medical care, and provide food resources if needed. Cat Depot has increased trapping efforts in the last year and has acquired 114 traps, the majority of which are used on a weekly basis. Cat Depot has grown our medical team to include three veterinarians, one of whom is Humane Alliance trained. In addition to having trained technicians, our clinic manager Deb DeVogt and our Community Cat Program Manager Cody Carlson have been certified with additional TNVR training. Cody Carlson has worked in animal welfare for five years, and she has been a community cat program manager for two years, including tracking of colony cats. She has trained with TNVR staff at the Humane Society of Tampa Bay under their TNVR manager Darlene Esposito. Cody's past includes positions such as customer care technician, adoptions counselor, admissions counselor, and shelter manager. Deb DeVogt is a certified veterinary technician and currently practice manager for Cat Depot's Rose Durham Cat Care Clinic. Deb, like Cody, is trained in humane trapping and works with the public as negotiator and trainer.

**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 currently have a steady program in place funded by three grants. The first is a government grant through Sarasota County. The second and third grants are from family foundations. If grant funds are not available, an individual donor provides funds for the program. We provide TNVR five days a week with emphasis on TNVR Tuesdays. We can currently spay/neuter an average of 16 cats per day, though we have increased that number to the low twenties during times of high demand. In 2015, the live release rate from Sarasota County Animal Services was 61% for cats. We strive to increase this rate to 75% in 2016. Last year, Cat Depot rescued and found homes for 987 kittens; proof that there is still an urgent need to sterilize free-roaming cats. Additional resources are needed to continue efforts, and additional funding will allow Cat Depot to sterilize more cats. We have the capacity to do more, but are limited by funds.

**Target Population**

**Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):**

Sarasota County, zip codes 34232,

<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	34234, and 34237 72486
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	33.5
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	21966
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	18122
<b>Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	12081
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	1229
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	1564
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	414
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	213
<b>Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.</b> n/a	
<b>Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:</b> These three zip codes are the lowest income zip codes in the county. Personal pets are not spayed or neutered, and transportation and funding are often an issue. As a result, unwanted kittens are born, creating hoarding situations, or are left roaming the streets to fend for themselves.	
<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> The resources in the county include ARC - Animal Rescue Coalition - an organization that follows the Humane Alliance model. They rely on grant funding which may or may not be applicable to people in the zip codes where resources are needed. In addition, like many organizations, they don't always have grant funds for free sterilization. Low cost services are always available. Buddy's Feral Cat Program offers limited free spay and neuter services through a local veterinary clinic. There is also Sarasota in Defense of Animals who may or may not offer TNVR services, depending on funding availability. In conclusion, there is a need that we have the capacity to fill.	
<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"/> <b>Pets in low-income families</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pit Bull / large breed dogs</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>TNR managed colonies of feral cats</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Community cats (free-roaming and/or owned)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>	

**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.**

The target area consists of zip codes 34232, 34234, and 34237 that together make up an area of approximately 21.5 square miles.

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

These three zip codes have the highest number of unowned/free-roaming cats and kittens, and the greatest number of euthanized cats through Sarasota County Animal Services.

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

The area is a combination of commercial and residential properties in a suburban setting.

**Estimated number of cats in the target colony area :** 12081

**Estimated number that are currently sterilized:** 2400

**Projected reduction after utilizing the grant:** 555

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

Since 2011 we have registered colonies and monitored, assisted and rescued cats from colonies. Caregivers call when there is a new arrival to sterilize or rescue. Every month we provide food for registered colony cats, and trappers and volunteers have committed to this program consistently since inception. We have never missed a month of adequate food for distribution or medical aid.

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

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

Yes

**Please explain what is allowed:**

Cat colonies are allowed, and TNVR efforts are accepted in Sarasota.

**(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:**

Sarasota County Animal Services supports Cat Depot's TNVR efforts. In 2015, Sarasota County acknowledged our efforts with a grant.

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

Cat Depot's Community Cat Food Bank provides food for those who support community/feral cats and income-qualified residents in need of food for their personal pets. The Food Bank helps lessen the cats' negative impact on birds and other wildlife through providing them a steady source of food.

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

Our TNVR efforts will lessen the negative impact of these cats through preventing the colonies from growing. We bring pregnant cats and kittens as well as friendly stray cats to our adoption facility, removing them from the streets and helping them find loving homes.

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

**Will the cats be microchipped?** Yes

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

Our seasoned and committed trappers are key to this program's success. They can provide more cats than we have funds to sterilize. With your support we can TNVR a greater number, reducing euthanasia statistics and the suffering of moms and kittens trying to survive on their own.

## Objectives

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

We will reduce unwanted kitten births and unnecessary suffering, and increase the live release rate from Animal Services. We also hope to educate the public in these areas regarding spay and neuter, and show how we can enhance their community through colonized care and sterilization. Cat Depot plans to sterilize 555 cats in the target area. The program will not stop after the grant money has been depleted; we will apply for additional funding through grants, donors, and fundraising efforts. Every cat will receive a microchip ensuring its safe return should it be picked up by Animal Services. Cat Depot will help pick up microchipped cats from Animal Services, should the caregiver be unable to transport.

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

In 2014, we provided TNVR for 530 cats. In 2015, the number increased to 1,278 plus 370 discounted sterilizations for owned cats. Our 2016 goal is 2,500, and with your support we could reach 3,000 or more in 2017.

## Methods

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

Eligibility for personal pets will be determined by a short questionnaire that includes income qualifications using government low income guidelines and records the name, address, and phone number of the pet owner. Community/feral cats in the target area will qualify automatically.

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

We will reach the target audience through a combination of media, including press releases and advertising in local free papers distributed in the target area. Flyers will be printed at Cat Depot's cost and distributed by staff and volunteers, and at our monthly food bank. Literature will be available at Cat Depot and on our website, and we will advertise the program on our social media pages. We will also alert local humane organizations who could potentially receive calls for help from this area. The spay/neuter clinic will be advertised on our prominent LED sign outside Cat Depot's facility. In addition, we have neighborhood bi-lingual flyers for distribution at local convenience stores, churches and neighborhoods.

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

Volunteers and staff are ready to transport cats as needed. Several members of Cat Depot's staff including Cody Carlson and one of our veterinarians are bilingual, speaking English and Spanish. Educational literature explaining the benefits of spay/neuter will be distributed, and this is also available in both English and 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.**

If transportation is not available, Cat Depot staff or trained volunteer transports will transport animals in humane traps or carriers. Cat Depot has trained transporters, and they are required to show proof of insurance and a valid driver's license. All transporters sign a "hold harmless" waiver that covers health and transportation. Cat Depot has liability and volunteer insurance. Transporters must have reliable/safe transportation and several volunteers use Cat Depot's cargo van for moving cats. We have two vehicles for transport and a rescue trailer able to comfortably accommodate 75 cats. Cats trapped in the evening that must wait for their procedure are given water and placed in a quiet environment with a sheet covering their cage. At Cat Depot, all cats are handled by trained veterinary technicians and assistants.

**Veterinary Services**

**Objectives**

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

Surgeries will be provided by our three in-house veterinarians in our Rose Durham Cat Care Clinic as well as in our shelter clinic.

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

**Veterinary Practices**

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Rose Durham Cat Care Clinic	2542 17th St	Sarasota	Florida	34234	941-366-2404	<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
<b>Range for Male Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>
<b>Range for Female Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>
<b>Range for Male Dogs</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
<b>Range for Female Dogs</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$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**  Required  Optional  Not Available

No  Yes

**Rabies Vaccination if Due**  Required  Optional  Not Available

No  Yes

**Other Vaccination if Due**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes

**Pain Medication**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes

**Parasite Medication**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes

**Testing**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes

**Licensing**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes

**Ear tipping**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes

**Other**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes

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

The grant funding will cover the sterilization procedure and pain medication. Cat Depot will cover FVRCP vaccine, Revolution, Rabies vaccine, Microchip and any medical needs. Sarasota County euthanizes every cat delivered in a trap, unless it has a microchip. If it is chipped, it is returned.

**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
Local Humane Organizations	Cat Depot collaborates with all local humane organizations. We post each other's flyers for free TNVR and personal pet sterilization. We also take calls for help from other groups to trap and rescue or TNVR community cats.
Local Press	We will issue press releases and enlist their help in spreading the word about the program.
Sarasota Animal Services	Animal Services will alert us when they receive calls from the target area, making it possible for us to intervene and assist. We also take in kittens and pregnant cats from Animal Services.

**Other Information**

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

To ensure that goals, standard operating procedures, and program timeline stays on track, pets taken in under the TNVR program are recorded in a spreadsheet and reported in weekly staff notes. Knowing how many cats are recipients helps us keep track and review monthly goals and expenses.

## Budget

### Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 555 Dogs: 0

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$24,975.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$45.00

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

For each cat, Cat Depot pays \$4.53 for Revolution, \$1.03 for Rabies vaccine, \$4.95 for microchip, and \$.98 for FVRCP vaccine. This money comes from general funds or grants. Cat Depot pays for cats requiring additional medical care from an ongoing Community Cat Fund. Transportation when needed and informational material is also paid for from general funding or grant 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.):

For each cat, Cat Depot pays \$4.53 for Revolution, \$1.03 for Rabies vaccine, \$4.95 for microchip, and \$.98 for FVRCP vaccine. This money comes from general funds or grants. Cat Depot pays for cats requiring additional medical care from an ongoing Community Cat Fund. Transportation when needed and informational material is also paid for from general funding or grant funds.

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

In 2015, Cat Depot started a new program called the Community Cat Care Fund. This fund is promoted heavily and is used for emergency care. Private donors, committed to TNVR assist and we are constantly applying for grants to cover additional costs. If grant funds are not secured, TNVR costs are paid from general funding.

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

74

## 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:** 09/01/16/ **Projected end date:** 08/31/17

### 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.**

Cat Depot is committed to the TNVR program. We have private donors supporting these efforts, and continuously apply for grants to be able to offer free or low-cost services. We also have a number of fundraisers through the year that help support community cats.

## 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.**

Cat Depot will issue press releases, promote the program prominently on our website and social media pages, and write about it in both print and electronic newsletters. Adopters who show proof of a FL Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate will be given a \$10 discount of the adoption fee per cat. We place rack cards promoting FL Animal Friend license plates in our Shelter lobby and Cat Care Clinic. And, in the future, we would like to place the rack card into every adoption bag.