

Grant ID: 1633

**Title of Proposal:** The Big Fix

**Agency Type:** Non-Profit

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

**Check Payable To:** First Coast No More Homeless Pets

### Application Information

### Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** First Coast No More Homeless Pets

**Website Address:** www.fcnmhp.org

**Person Submitting Proposal:** Barbara Barrett

**Position:** Major Gifts and Grants Manager

**Agency Head:** Rick DuCharme

**Agency Head Email:** rducharme@fcnmp.org

**Organization Business Address:** 6817 Norwood Avenue

**City:** Jacksonville

**State:** FL

**Zip:** 32208

**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 904-520-7900

**Fax:** 904-338-0819

**Cell:**

**Email Address:** bbarrett@fcnmp.org

### Agency Details

**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 10/01/14 **End:** 09/30/15

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$6,260,778.00

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$6,154,382.00

**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 63 Part Time: 6

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 500

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 140.00

**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: 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2013

#### 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
Debbie Fields	Past President, Member	904-596-7350	Executive, Clear Channel Broadcasting	dlfields@bellsouth.net
Emilie Johnson	Member	847-431-1016	Manager, Client Services, Beeline Company	emilie.b.johnson@gmail.com
John Willis	President	954-471-2397	xxx	jwr1200rt@gmail.com
Joseph A. Strasser	Vice President	904-396-9077	Retired Businessman	
Lee Conway	Member	904-923-7736	Community Volunteer	mleeconway@aol.com
Martin Rees	Member	978-808-3036	Financial Analyst	Rees-martin@comcast.net
Michelle Mastrean	Member	904-359-2434	Vice President of HR, CSX Intermodal Terminals, Inc	mmastrean@comcast.net
Tom Moilenan	Treasurer	904-864-4184	Accountant	Tomm.4@hotmail.com
Venetia Vaughn	Member	904-230-6767	Community Volunteer	venetiavaughn@aol.com
Vince Ferrigno	Member	904-757-8970	Retired Businessman	vincef369@gmail.com

**Applicant Qualifications****For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:****0 cats and 0 dogs were admitted.****0 cats and 0 dogs were adopted.****0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.****18867 cats and 7405 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.**

The mission of First Coast No More Homeless Pets (FCNMHP) is to end the killing of dogs and cats in shelters in our community, Northeast Florida and the nation. Our combination of aggressive spay/neuter efforts, adoption initiatives and pet retention programs has resulted in significant improvement in animal welfare. In 2002, the year we were formed, more than 33,000 animals entered the Jacksonville shelters annually and in excess of 23,000 of those animals were killed. Last year, total intake was half the 2002 number and only 752 animals were euthanized. Both Jacksonville and neighboring Nassau County are considered to be No-Kill. FCNMHP is the only organization in Northeast Florida providing comprehensive services designed to reduce overpopulation. Our approach is to examine data from the city shelter—Jacksonville Animal Care & Protective Services (JACPS)—and determine the origin of pet intake, as well as the types of pets least likely to leave the shelter alive. Armed with this information, we target our efforts. For example, we have offered free spay/neuter services for large dogs, feral cats, pets owned by low-income residents and pets from zip codes with high surrender rates. FCNMHP worked with the City of Jacksonville to establish Feral Freedom, a trap-neuter-return program for feral cats. This was the first program of its kind in the nation to eliminate the standard protocol of euthanizing feral cats in shelters and has now been emulated and adopted all across the country. In addition, our Neuter Commuter vans provide transportation for sterilization surgeries for pets living in outlying areas. Last year we performed more than 26,000 surgeries in our clinic which is the largest spay/neuter facility in the nation. We operate programs to keep pets in the home and out of shelters. Our low-cost clinic is open to the public seven days a week, providing high quality care and about half the cost of standard veterinary clinics. We are in the process of opening a new clinic in an underserved area of the city that will triple the size of our current clinic. We raise funds for our Angel Fund that allows us to provide lifesaving services to pets whose owners cannot afford the care or for strays who have no one to pay. We also operate a Pet Food bank, run entirely by volunteers using donated food, which serves as another method of keeping families and their pets together. To date, we have distributed more than 1 million pounds of pet food to low income pet owners. We also organize and implement Mega Adoption events, partnering with shelters and rescues across Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia. These events are among the largest in the country where upwards of 1,100 dogs and cats can find homes in a single weekend. We have also started smaller Super Adoption events at various locations in Northeast Florida, enabling smaller shelters to better manage their populations. Our spay/neuter programs are overseen by our Medical Director, Kelly Farrell, DVM, who has been with us since 2009, and our Director of Operations, Jennifer Barker. We offer surgeries six days a week and have the capacity to handle the additional surgeries this grant would cover. We track all surgeries and statistics and will be able to report our

success. We have an active Development and Public Relations Department to advertise the program by way of press releases, newsletters, flyers, social media and PSA's.

**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?**

Last year, we performed 26,272 spay/neuter surgeries at a total cost to us of \$1,659,772. Of these, 10,892 were paid for, either by individuals or rescue groups, bringing in income of \$759,121. The City of Jacksonville uses part of the pet license fees to pay for surgeries for pets owned by low-income people, and, for so long as the money lasts, for cats residing in Duval County. Several surrounding counties had some spay/neuter programs that enabled them to pay for a limited number of surgeries. These programs brought in \$510,948 last year. We also had grants to cover some surgeries, amounting to \$115,052. The rest of the surgeries came out of our funds. This fall, JACPS received a Florida Animal Friends grant to pay for surgeries for large dogs. In the seven weeks this grant has been in effect, 194 dogs have been spayed or neutered. We anticipate that this grant to spay or neuter 500 large dogs will be entirely used up within four months. In previous years, when we had grants for large dogs, we were able to perform free surgeries on more than 1,100 dogs. Unfortunately, that grant source has changed its focus, so those funds are no longer available. Because almost all the dogs admitted to the shelter are large dogs, we feel it is critical to continue to offer programs targeted to this population.

**Target Population**

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):</b>	Duval County, FL
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	897,698
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	17.4
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	272030
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	224425
<b>Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	149617
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	9785
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	7581
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	385
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	392

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

**Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:**  
Pit bull/large breed dogs; feral/community cats

**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 and neuter services are generally available through all licensed veterinary clinics, but prices are not affordable for many, and the private clinics have limited capacity. Both FCNMHP and the Jacksonville Humane Society offer programs for free or low-cost surgeries. With increased funding, we can increase the number of free surgeries in the community which will encourage more people to spay or neuter their pets.

**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.

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?** Yes

**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)?**

The goal of this program is to reduce the overpopulation of large dogs—particularly pit bull types—that make up the majority of the shelter dog population. Every additional surgery will eliminate countless numbers of litters. Our specific goal is to sterilize 500 such large dogs with this grant.

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

When we had funding for this program, we sterilized more than 1,100 qualifying dogs each year. In the last year of the grant, we were able to perform a total of 31,125 surgeries. This past year, without a grant to cover surgeries of large dogs, that number was down to 26,172. Clearly, being able to offer free surgeries motivates people to sterilize their large dogs. With the current grant from Florida Animal Friend to Jacksonville Animal Care and Protective Services, we have sterilized almost 200 dogs in less than two months. Approval of this grant will help us maintain those numbers throughout the year.

## Methods

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

The program will be available to anyone who has a dog either weighing over 40 pounds or expected to weigh over 40 pounds when fully grown.

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

We will advertise the program through social media, including Facebook. We will also let the press know about the program. Clear Channel Communications provides public service announcements to us, and this will be used to advertise the program. We will also post signs in our clinic lobby.

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

This is usually not an issue, but if it is, we have staff and volunteers to help those in need. We can provide transportation and our staff has bilingual members.

### 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.

In almost all cases, the transportation is provided by the client. When necessary, we can provide transportation in one of our vans outfitted for this purpose. Our personnel are trained to handle the dogs that might be transported in this program.

## Veterinary Services

### Objectives

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

All surgeries will be performed by our in-house veterinarians.

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

### Veterinary Practices

#### 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?
<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 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="\$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="\$16.00"/>
<b>Pain 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="\$10.00"/>

**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:**

All dogs will be examined before surgery. There is no additional charge for cryptorchid or hernia repair. Other treatment fees vary. Duval County requires a \$20 pet license fee when a pet is vaccinated for rabies.

**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
Dog Rescue Groups	Dog Rescue Groups, such as Pit Sisters, will publicize the program and refer large dog owners for surgery
Jacksonville Animal Care and Protective Services	JACPS will refer large dog owners to our clinic and publicize 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 know that to truly deal with the problem of unwanted pets, it is necessary to prevent their breeding. Spaying and neutering will not only reduce the pet overpopulation, but it will also make it easier for owners to find new homes for them if necessary as opposed to bringing them to the shelter. We know the demand is there for free surgeries of large dogs and that the public will respond by bringing their dogs in to be sterilized.

### 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:**

This grant will pay for an exam and the surgery. Additional costs, such as vaccines, will be paid by the client, as needed.

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

This grant will pay for an exam and the surgery. Additional costs, such as vaccines, will be paid by the client, as needed.

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

We will absorb the difference between the amount paid by the grant (\$50) and the actual cost of surgery (an average of \$57 per dog). FCNMHP will also seek additional funding to cover additional surgeries of large dogs beyond those covered by this grant.

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

88%

## Timeline

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

**Projected start date:** 08/01/16/ **Projected end date:** 12/31/16

### 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 seek funding for this program from individual donors and foundations. We will soon be opening a new low-cost veterinary clinic that we project will help to provide funds for our spay-neuter programs.

## 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 send a press release to all our local media contacts announcing the grant support and promoting the license plate. Also, we will include promotional links on our website and Facebook pages. Literature will be distributed at our public events, including our Mega and Super Adoption events that attract thousands of people. We will also distribute license plate promotional material at our two clinics.