

Grant ID: 1646

Title of Proposal: 2016 Large Dog

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00

Check Payable To: P.A.W.S. Lee County Inc

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: P.A.W.S. Lee County Inc

Website Address: pawslleecounty.org

Person Submitting Proposal: Theresa Ink

Position: President

Agency Head: Theresa Ink

Agency Head Email: t.ink@att.net

Organization Business Address: 965 Pondella Rd

City: N. Ft. Myers

State: Florida

Zip: 33903

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 239-652-6722

Fax: 239-652-6724

Cell: 239-994-2514

Email Address: t.ink@att.net

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/01/15 **End:** 12/31/15

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$495,205.05

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$499,848.27

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 5 Part Time: 0

Number of Active Volunteers: 25

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 100.00

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: 2010, 2012,2014 Year(s) denied/incomplete:

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:

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

501 cats and 393 dogs were admitted.

420 cats and 392 dogs were adopted.

73 cats and 5 dogs were euthanized.

2541 cats and 1800 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 have been operating since December 1998 and have performed approximately 80,000 surgeries to date. Theresa Ink, our President and founder, started our first spay/neuter clinic in December 1998. In January 2013 we were able to purchase a 2500 square foot building with 3/4 of an acre near our previous location. So we are still located 10 minutes from two of the poorest neighborhoods in Lee County. All of our employees are dedicated to this mission and most have worked for PAWS for more than 5 years. Dr. Mark Schmidt, our current veterinarian has worked for us for over 3 years. He has donated many hours to shelter medicine and for many years owned a full service clinic.

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 spay or neuter approximately 4500 dogs or cats per year. While most of the clients pay us something, we know we are missing some opportunities to spay or neuter because some clients do not have the funds. In some situations it is because they have too many dogs or cats and they are only "fixing" some but not all. Our clinic's resources are stretched thin already, and in order to be in a position to assist those who desire sterilization but lack the money, our clinic needs additional funds.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Lee
Total human population in target area:	680,000
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	25
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	206061
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	170000
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	113334
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	4700
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	4594
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1283
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1263

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

While we will serve anyone in Lee, Glades, and Hendry Counties, they must be low income or explain to us there is a need. If potential clients have large dogs but are just coming to us to save money, we recommend several full-service veterinary clinics in the

area. We ask a lot of questions, such as, where did you acquire the dog, what veterinary care has it received, and how long have you had the dog. You can get a good feel for whether they need our services by asking these types of questions.

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

Low income neighborhoods, lack of perceived services available, unsupported and unmonitored feral colonies, and large, unaltered dogs running loose.

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?

Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS) provides spay/neuter services in part of our target area but they are 35 to 45 minutes from our clinic. Two very low-income neighborhoods are 10 minutes from our clinic. We also pick up animals for surgery, if there is a transportation problem. LCDAS cannot provide that service. Also, we are starting to serve other counties, and LCDAS cannot provide services for these locations. Gulf Coast Humane Society also performs spay/neuter surgeries in Lee County. They are located in East Ft Myers and are closer to several very low income neighborhoods in central and east Ft Myers. Each of these organizations will refer clients to our location when appropriate and we refer to their locations.

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?** No**Provide any additional information that will help the grant selection committee understand how this program will operate to achieve its goals.**

N/A

Objectives

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

250 spay/neuter surgeries of large dogs for low-income pet owners.

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

The funds provided by this program would subsidize surgeries for those pet owners who cannot afford to cover the cost of their pet's sterilization, even through a low-cost program such as ours. This will result in our ability to provide more public services to reduce the overpopulation in the target areas that we already serve.

Methods

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

Any pet owner who has a large dog and is on some type of public assistance will be eligible for this program. Additionally, if a client can demonstrate a financial hardship or need, we will determine if they are eligible.

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

Facebook and Craig's List have become the best way to reach our target audience, as well as word of mouth in these communities. Neighborhood newsletters and our county web site offer additional avenues for "getting the word out" by allowing us to submit information for publication.

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

We have always provided transportation when necessary. We explain the medical reasons for spay/neuter, and it frequently will help with the cultural hurdles. We have not found illiteracy to be a problem. Through sustained and caring services, we have established a good reputation in this area, and the residents of varied ethnicities have come to trust us and our mission. This trust is reinforced daily by our food pantry distributions - to altered pets only - another incentive to have one's pet sterilized.

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.

We sometimes transport animals for the client in our personal vehicles. We normally seek the assistance of the pet's owner in the handling of problem animals. We always require receipt of a signed consent from the pet owner before transport. Each of our staff has received training to ensure the safety of the animals and handlers.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

Dr Mark Schmidt, is our full time veterinarian and he has been with us for over three years. We also have at least six other veterinarians available to us on an as-needed basis. To aid Dr. Schmidt, we have three trained veterinary technicians with a combined experience of more than 25 years.

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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$15.00	\$100.00	\$115.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$15.00	\$100.00	\$115.00

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 type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" 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="\$5.00"/>
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="\$25.00"/>
Licensing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Ear tipping	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input 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:
N/A

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
Gulf Coast Humane Society	As with Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS), we share information with Gulf Coast Humane Society (GCHS), as well as referrals, and sometimes animals. We often refer sick animals to them for the veterinary clinic services. They refer spay/neuter clients to us when the client is located in our area. They are lower cost and could be an option for our clients for services we do not provide.
Lee County Domestic Animal Services	We have always worked with Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS), almost on a daily basis. Clients who call us for services but live closer to LCDAS are given the shelter's spay/neuter number and information. They do the same for us on calls from clients in our area. LCDAS has our information posted on their website and they have fliers in their lobby with our information. All of the animal control officers carry our business cards and give out our information.

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 many clients who do not have the \$100 for our low-cost sterilization. They come to us for help and can sometimes come up with \$10 or \$20. With this grant we will be able to help 250 of these clients obtain the surgery needed for their pet.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 0 **Dogs:** 250

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$100.00

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

All expenses are included in the grant.

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

All expenses are included in the grant.

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

N/A

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: 08/01/16/ **Projected end date:** 07/31/17

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.**

We have always been able to provide some spay/neuter surgeries at almost no cost. These are paid for by the operating funds that we receive. We just can't provide the number of free surgeries from operating revenue that we could do with grant funds. We have received funds from Petsmart, Maddies Fund, and DJ&T in the past. We are also partnering with Best Friends with the intention of writing a grant with them.

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.**

PAWS Lee County has always promoted the purchase of Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plates through Facebook and our web site. We have reported how the success of the license plate program is crucial to dealing with the unwanted, homeless dog and cat overpopulation problem in our communities. We also have Florida Animal Friend brochures in our lobby.