

Grant ID: 1676

Title of Proposal: Downtown Kissimme TNR**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$15,000.00**Check Payable To:** Spay The Strays Inc.

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Spay The Strays**Website Address:** www.spaythestrays.rescuegroups.org**Person Submitting Proposal:** Brenda Winnick**Position:** Volunteer**Agency Head:** Anita Sanders**Agency Head Email:** Spaythestrays@aol.com**Organization Business Address:** 1015 Shawanda Lane**City:** Kissimmee**State:** Florida**Zip:** 34744**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 407-460-2305**Fax:** 407-847-5300**Cell:** 407-460-2305**Email Address:** Spaythestrays@aol.com

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/01/15 **End:** 12/31/15**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$120,585.00**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$116,780.00**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 0 Part Time: 0**Number of Active Volunteers:** 22**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 550.00**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** We have been a previous applicant.**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 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:

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation	Email
Anita Sanders	President	407-460-2305	Manager, Non Profit Org.	Spaythestrays@aol.com
Juanita Miller	Treasurer	407-361-6330	Retired	
Maria McKenna	Secretary	407-460-8503	Retired	Maria1312@live.com
Terri Williams	Vice President	407-765-7292	Real Estate	Twill12046@aol.com

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

0 cats and 0 dogs were admitted.

349 cats and 0 dogs were adopted.

8 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

579 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.**

Spay The Strays was formed as a non-profit organization in 2006. We have 22 very dedicated volunteers. Seven of the volunteers are trained in the trapping and healing of feral cats. Almost all of our volunteers are active in providing foster homes for the adoptable cats and kittens and about 10 are very active workers at our adoption location, especially on adoption days. We have three volunteers who repair our traps and fix other equipment. Our bookkeeper has a Degree in accounting and will track the grant funding. Our primary vet has been Dr. Giovanni Vergel with Crystal Creek Animal Hospital. He is very supportive of our organization and our efforts to control the feral cat population in Osceola County.

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?

In a typical year our income from donations, adoptions and fund raising events is about \$80,000. We feed and maintain over 80 colonies plus the cats on our sanctuary property. We also purchase FIV/Leukemia test kits, antibiotics, and other necessary medicines for the cats in our foster and adoption programs. We buy cleaning supplies, food and litter and support one vehicle. In 2015 We had expenses for cat maintenance of \$48,400 cleaning supplies \$4,600; and vehicle expenses of \$6,000 leaving about \$21,000 for our variable expenses including our TNR program and animal rescue efforts. We are able to maintain the colonies that we have under control but we are not able to expand our program to meet the needs that exist in Kissimmee unless we get grants that provide us additional funding.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	24.8Downtown Kissimmee, Fl
Total human population in target area:	59,682
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	24.8
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	18086
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	14921
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	9947
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	Unknown
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	

known)	Unknown
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	Unknown
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	Unknown
<p>Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. We do not have any reason to believe that the ratio of cats to the people population is significantly different from that calculated. However, we could only obtain the population either by the City of Kissimmee, which is what we used, or by zip code. As you will see later in this application, the area that has been identified where feral and roaming cats are getting out of control is a smaller area within the geographical Kissimmee City limits and falls partly within zip codes 34741 and 34744. Therefore the total cat population is much smaller than that calculated above.</p>	
<p>Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: The source of the over population of unwanted cats is not the cats themselves, as they just do what is in their nature to do. The source is the human population who either do not understand the problems that are caused by not sterilizing their pets or don't have the funds. Please note that the percentage of residents in the City of Kissimmee living below the poverty level is 24.8. We think people tend to believe that cats should be allowed to roam free in the neighborhood and in Osceola County there are certainly no requirements that cats be sterilized or kept inside. We also know that people look for a place where cats are being feed and they seem to feel they are doing the cats (often a mother cat and a new litter) a favor when they dump them there. While we certainly try to provide educational materials about the feral cat problems, for the past ten years that we have been providing TNR in Osceola County, the problem still has not been adequately addressed by the county or the city.</p>	
<p>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? Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando has a partnership with Osceola County Animal Control and comes to the county once a week. The cost to spay or neuter one cat is \$40 and the wait period for these services is currently running one month and there is a limit of two cats that can be scheduled at a time per household. There are additional charges for core vaccinations. Pet Alliance referred me to Carefeline and I am trying to see if Osceola County residents can use their services at \$25 per cat to spay or neuter feral cats. Based on their web site information, this service is being funded through a resent grant from Florida Animal Friend and the target area is East Orlando. If that is true, then Kissimmee residents would not be eligible. So other than Pet Alliance, and maybe Carefeline, that only leaves private vet services which often times are very expensive. Osceola County is sadly lacking in sufficient low cost spay and neuter services. The residential area of Osceola County that we are targeting is not an affluent area, thus people are less likely to spend money on having a pet cat spayed or neutered and even far less likely to spend the money on a feral cat roaming the neighborhood. To compound the problem, part of the area is commercial and the cats are hanging out at an office complex, around the Courthouse, or the hospital where they are being fed by well meaning employees. While Spay the Strays tries to assist when we get calls from these locations, our resources are limited and there are insufficient resources readily and cheaply available in the county to encourage people to take action on their own.</p>	
<p>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:</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input type="checkbox"/> Pit Bull / large breed dogs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TNR managed colonies of feral cats <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community cats (free-roaming and/or owned) <input type="checkbox"/> Other </p>	

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 targeted area is in and around downtown Kissimmee. This area, while not a square, is generally boarded on the north by 192 or Irlo Bronson Hwy; on the east by a nature preserve and Oak Street; on the south by Lake Tohopekaliga (Lake Toho) including railroad tracks; and on the west by John Young Pkwy. We estimate the total area to be approximately three but no more than four square miles.

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

Our volunteers are well aware of where the main "hot spots" of cat population are located. Together we have identified downtown Kissimmee as the most critical area in need of an intensive TNR program. We have also met with Donna Clapp of Helping Paws and she feels that area is where the most cats need to be spayed or neutered. She has offered the use of her traps and to assist us in trapping the cats and transporting them to and from the vet.

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

Our target area is the actual downtown part of Kissimmee, sometimes referred to as "Old Downtown Kissimmee" and the surrounding area. It is a mixture of residential and commercial use. This is where the Osceola County Courthouse is located, as well as the Lake Front Park. It also includes Osceola Regional Hospital and many medical facilities. The homes in this area are mostly small older houses on their own lots.

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area : 450

Estimated number that are currently sterilized: 50

Projected reduction after utilizing the grant: 150

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

Most of the feral cats will be returned to the area where they were trapped. Our volunteers feed cats in several locations in this area so they will be fed. Many residents and workers also feed the cats on a regular basis. Two of our volunteers actually live in or very near this area and will be keeping watch for new cats that appear. As always, we ear clip those that are sterilized so it becomes easier to identify new cats. Some cats and kittens will enter our foster and adoption program.

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:

TNR is supported, on a local basis, by Helping Paws, the City Commissioners, and Osceola Animal Control. In Orange County it is supported by CARE Feline TNR, Candy's Cats, Pet Rescue By Judy and Alley Cats Allies.

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

The best way for cats to have less impact on wildlife is to prevent unwanted cats from being born. Cats, by nature, will hunt. Sometimes this is good because they will keep the rodent population under control. But certainly no one wants to see cats going after birds. Getting some cats off the streets and into homes will lessen the impact. Keeping the cats well fed so they do not hunt out of necessity will also lessen the impact.

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

If we determine that having a cat around a particular residential area or business is a problem we have several managed colonies in a couple of miles range and we can always relocate some cats to these areas. We will be meeting and talking with neighbors as we actively trap in the residential areas so we can access the potential for problems with them. When trapping in the business sections we will probably meet employees who have been feeding cats at their work place.

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.

Through active TNR in the downtown area we will be able to help control the growing cat population. Our volunteers will talk with business owners and employees as well as residents to let them know what we are doing and to solicit their help in locating cats so they can be trapped. In some instances we will loan traps to residents, instruct them on using the trap, and have them call the volunteer when they have trapped a cat.

Objectives

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

Our goal is that by conducting an active TNR project in the downtown targeted area we will be able to spay and neuter the non owned and free roaming cats that have gathered in the area and to keep them from further populating the area. We will also remove the kittens and friendly younger cats and place them in our fostering and adoption programs, thus getting them off the street and

giving them good homes. Additionally we want to raise awareness of the necessity of spaying and neutering pets. We want to keep as many cats as we can from being turned over to the county animal shelter where the euthanasia rate exceeds 70%.

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

Spay the Strays is the only organization that practices TNR in Osceola County. We spend part of our donations each year on spaying and neutering but our first priority for these funds is to maintain our existing colonies by insuring no population growth in them. So our funds go first to sterilizing the cats that have wandered into our colonies or have been dropped off there by "well meaning" strangers. Our existing funds also go to the sterilization of mother cats and their kittens as we find them in the surrounding areas or often dropped off at our adoption site. Many of our volunteers pay for some spay and neuters from their own funds each year. We don't have sufficient funds to allocate to an active TNR program.

Methods

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

When we are trapping in the target area any cat that does not have a tag, collar, or ear clip will be taken to be spayed or neutered.

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

For a TNR project of this nature there is no need to advertise the availability of services. However, we will advertise the grant funding that we receive.

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

Some of our volunteers speak Spanish or French in addition to English. This will be an asset when talking to business owners, employees, and residents.

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.

All of our volunteers drive either a truck or SUV that can easily transport several traps. Our cats will be housed in cages at a volunteer's house from the time they are trapped until they are taken for their vet appointment. Friendlier cats might be permitted to roam free in a house, depending on the circumstances. Following surgery the males will spend 2-3 days back at the volunteer's house and the females 5-6 days. They will be observed during the healing process and then returned to the location where they were trapped, relocated, or considered part of the fostering program. Our volunteers are well trained and experienced in trapping as well as healing animals.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

We have three different veterinarians that are will to participate in this project. Crystal Creek has been providing the majority of our vet services for the past three years. There is a new veterinarian office in St Cloud that is run by Dr Russo, a former Pet alliance vet, and she is very anxious to participate. The name of her practice is West End Animal Care Clinic. The third is Lake Nona, another vet that we have used in the past. There have been rumors of a low cost Spay and Neuter Clinic opening in Kissimmee but so far it is still only a rumor. If it opens, we will certainly ask them to participate.

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

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Crystal Creek Animal Hospital	12200 Menta St. Suite 103	Orlando	FL	32837	407-203-0741	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lake Nona Animal Clinic	10743 Narcoossee Rd. Suite A22	Orlando	FL	32832	407-249-4100	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
West End Animal Care Clinic	4427 13th Street	St Cloud	FL	34769	407-498-3080	<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="\$10.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$43.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$53.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$10.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$48.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$58.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<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	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" 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 type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$7.00"/>
Other Vaccination if Due	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
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 checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Testing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Licensing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
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 checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

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

We will be paying for rabies and distemper shots. We will also pay for ear clips for the feral cats to be returned to colonies. If kittens and cats will be entering our adoption program we will also pay for the exam and additional services.

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

Helping Paws	Trapping and transport for Spay and Neuter, Healing
Osceola News Gazette	Community awareness of this program
Petco	Adoption Site

Other Information

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

In September 2016 Spay The Strays will be celebrating their 10th anniversary. We have been working hard these years to reduce the feral cat population in and around Kissimmee, Fl. We have a core group of very dedicated volunteers who work hard at caring for the cats, working at our adoption center, and running our foster homes. Our volunteers often pay for food and medical services from their own funds. Our organization is supported entirely by donations, grants, fund raising events and adoption fees. It would be a wonderful thing for our volunteers to be able to celebrate our 10th anniversary with this spay and neuter grant.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 312 **Dogs:** 0

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$15,000.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$49.00

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

Distemper shots, rabies shots, testing for FIV/Leukemia, ear clips, microchips and other miscellaneous expanses are not covered by the grant. These will be paid for by funding from Spay The Strays donations, volunteer direct payments, and fund raising efforts. We also expect to produce a limited amount of net revenue from our adoption program.

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

Distemper shots, rabies shots, testing for FIV/Leukemia, ear clips, microchips and other miscellaneous expanses are not covered by the grant. These will be paid for by funding from Spay The Strays donations, volunteer direct payments, and fund raising efforts. We also expect to produce a limited amount of net revenue from our adoption program.

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

We have funds from our general donation base that are allocated for the purchase of medications and various veterinary services. While we do not budget for all the grants we hope to receive each year, we do get funding support from Petco Foundation and Disney. We are registered to receive employee payroll deduction contributions from federal employees in Florida. We hope to finish our enrollment as a charity with the Central Florida Foundation in May. We have great support through residents and the Kit Kat Club in Solivita, a 55+ retirement community in Poinciana. They have enrolled us to participate in the Purple Flowers annual fund raiser and conduct fundraising events for us several times a year. When necessary we have raised funds on Facebook for specific causes and have many supporters through social media.

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

78%

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:** 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 many repeat donor supporters. We also have a great following on social media and often use Facebook for special funding requests. Our income has grown significantly over the past several years from on line fund raising requests and events. Our adoption program nets us some funding. After we have spayed and neutered the cats in this area we will treat it as we do a managed colony and our first priority from our spay and neuter budget is always to maintain our existing colonies and constantly watch for new cats so that a population explosion problem does not occur.

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 distribute literature to help educate people about the importance of spaying and neutering animals. Included in that packet is the "How the Problem of Homeless Pets gets fixed" handout from Florida Animal Friend Organization. These are also available on display at our adoption site at Petco. There is a link on our web site to the Florida Animal Friend site. We will also announce the grant on Facebook and will post progress reports from time to time. We will ask the Osceola News Gazette, which is published in downtown Kissimmee, to run an article about Spay The Strays receiving the grant and outlining the target area. It is for sure that we will obtain some kittens from this area and they will be placed in our adoption program. When these kittens are on display for adoption, we will place a notice on their cage that says that part of their adoption preparation has been funded by a grant from Florida Animal Friend, made possible by the purchase of the Spay Neuter License Plate by Florida residents.