

Grant ID: 1753

Title of Proposal: Community Cats  
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

**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** bbarrett@fcnmp.org

Agency Head: Rick DuCharme  
Agency Head Email: rducharme@fcnmp.org

Organization Business Address: 6817 Norwood Avenue  
State: Florida  
City: Jacksonville  
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 904-520-7901  
Zip: 32208  
Cell: 904-338-0819  
Fax: 904-338-0819

#### Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 06/05/2002

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: **Begin:** 10/01/16 **End:** 09/30/17

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$8,189,897.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$7,938,442.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 97 Part Time: 12

Number of Active Volunteers: 700

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 172.00

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 Years Funded: 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2016 Year(s) denied/incomplete:  
Applications: 2013

	Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
	115	2009	Trap-Neuter-Release Surgery Fund	Funded
	215	2011	Pit Bull/Feral Cat Spay & Neuter Programs	Funded
Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):	345	2013	Fix a Kitty Litter	Denied (not completed)
	1395	2014	Fix a Kitty Litter	Funded
	1615	2007		Funded
	1633	2016	The Big Fix	Funded
	1753	2018	Community Cats	Funded

**Describe your Organization:**

**Services Provided**

- Open Admission Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter
- Foster Network
- Animal Control
- Spay/Neuter Services
- Other

**Organization Structure:**

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

**List your current board of directors:**

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation
Debbie Fields	Past President, Member	904-596-7350	Executive, Clear Channel Broadcasting
Emilie Johnson	Past President/Member	847-431-1016	Manager, Client Services, Beeline Company
Joseph A. Strasser	Member	904-396-9077	Retired Businessman
Lisa Crowley	Member	845-661-0480	VP, JP Morgan Chase
Martin Rees	President	904-619-3939	Financial Analyst
Mary Ashley	Member	904-520-7902	Community Volunteer
Rene Kurzius	Member	904-619-6919	Community Volunteer
Tom Moilenan	Treasurer	904-757-0603	Accountant

**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.**

**0 cats and 0 dogs were sterilized.**

**Briefly describe your animal programs:**

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stray/Lost pet intake       | <input type="checkbox"/> Foster Program               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wellness services to understand pet owners | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Program              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owner surrendered animals   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food Bank         | <input type="checkbox"/> Cruelty investigation                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High volume spay/neuter clinic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost and Found Program      | <input type="checkbox"/> Behavior counseling          | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement of ordinances                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full service wellness clinic   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adoption Program | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disaster services |  |  |

**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 down by almost 15,000 from the 2002 number, and only 949 animals were euthanized. Duval, Nassau and Clay counties have been no-kill (90% or better live release rate) for four years, and Flagler County attained that status this past year. 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 adopted by communities all across the country. Last year we performed more than 20,000 surgeries in our clinic which is one of the largest spay/neuter facilities in the nation. We operate programs to keep pets in the home and out of shelters. Our low-cost clinic and state-of-the-art veterinary hospital—both located in under-served areas of Jacksonville—are open to the public seven days a week, providing high quality care at about half the cost of standard veterinary clinics. We have a range of charitable funds that allow us to provide lifesaving services to pets whose owners cannot afford the critical care or for strays who have no one to pay. We have a board member funded program that will pay for medical care for strays when the finder agrees to adopt or rehome the stray. 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 1.5 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. These events are among the largest in the country where upwards of 1,100 dogs and cats have found homes in a single weekend. Our spay/neuter programs are overseen by our Head of Surgery, Brienne LeMay, DVM, and our COO, Jennifer Barker. We offer surgeries six days a week and easily have the capacity to handle the additional surgeries this grant would allow. We track all surgeries and statistics and will be able to document our success. We have an active Development and Public Relations Department to advertise the program by way of media releases, newsletters, flyers, social media and PSA's, as well as a Volunteer Manager who also manages the Community Cat Caregivers Corps.

**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 20,789 surgeries at a total cost of \$1,548,488. Of these, 9,878 were paid for, either by individuals or rescue groups, bringing in \$777,696. The City of Jacksonville allocates part of the pet license fees to pay for surgeries for pets owned by low-income residents, and, for so long as the money last, for cats residing in Duval County. Grants, either to FCNMHP or to shelters in other counties covered additional surgeries costing \$118,569. The remainder of the surgeries, costing \$267,178, came from our funds (the majority of which were for our Feral Freedom program). This year we will receive \$150,000 in funding from the City of Jacksonville for feral cat surgeries which we expect to last approximately 6 months. When we have funding to provide free surgeries, we have performed as many as 543 cat surgeries in a month, not including the Feral Freedom surgeries of cats brought to the city shelter. Moreover, we have recently launched a Community Cat Caregiver Corps (CCCC), made up of volunteer community cat trappers who can be called upon to help others, particularly the elderly and disabled, trap cats, bring them in for surgery and release the cats to their home territory. Currently, we have approximately 85 engaged members of the CCCC. In addition to TNR work, this team will also engage in community education and training as well as public dispute resolution and mediation when needed. Our research suggests that if we can reach 9,262 (one for each 100 in human population) spay/neuter surgeries of ferals each year in Duval County, and sustain it, we will be able to humanely control the feral cat population over the long term. The funding from the City will pay for 3750 surgeries. Our Feral Freedom program will cover approximately 3000 more. The additional 625 surgeries from this grant will help reach a total of 7,375. We will continue to look for additional funds, in addition to what some cat trappers pay, to reach our 9,262 goal. These funds are needed because the community impact is directly related to funding. We know that if we can offer free surgeries throughout the year, our surgery numbers increase. In addition, with the formation of the CCCC, we can expect more ferals will be brought for surgery, allowing us to reach our 9,262 surgery goal with the result of decreased shelter admissions.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical Information service (GIS), etc.):	Duval County, FL
Total human population in target area:	926,255
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	14.5
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	280684
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	231564
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	154376
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	11,159
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	7,427
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	490

Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	479
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. We do not believe it is significantly different	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: Clearly, the community cat population is a most substantial source of overpopulation as evidenced by the fact that shelter cat admissions soared at the county shelter during kitten season. For example, in February feline admissions were 286; by June they soared to 1,090. The other large source of admissions is large dogs.	
<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> We operate one of the largest spay/neuter facilities in the country, capable of performing up to 50,000 surgeries per year. However, without the ability to provide free surgeries, especially to targeted populations such as community or feral cats, the cost is always a limitation on the number we are asked to perform. Surgeries increase dramatically when we have funding to provide surgeries at no cost.	
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input type="checkbox"/> Pit Bull / large breed dogs <input type="checkbox"/> TNR managed colonies of feral cats <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community cats (free-roaming and/or owned) <input type="checkbox"/> 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.**  
 Duval County, FL, which is 762 square miles.

**What is the criteria used for determining the target area(s) and/or eligibility for this program?**  
 Cats brought in by Duval County residents.

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

**Estimated number of cats in the target colony area :** 154376  
**Estimated number that are currently sterilized:** 50000  
**Projected reduction after utilizing the grant:** 625

**For TNR program, describe the ability to maintain lifelong care for remaining cats, commitment level of volunteers/organizations, etc.**  
 Generally speaking, the persons bringing in the cats for sterilization are also caring for the colony. When volunteers trap cats for others, they frequently talk to the person contacting them about caring for the animals.

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

Yes

**Please explain what is allowed:**

The Jacksonville City Ordinances allow for Community Cat Management Initiatives, requiring that managed colonies be on the property of the caregiver or with permission of the property owner, that the cats are sterilized, vaccinated and ear-tipped and that the manager provide nutrition and medical care.

**(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:**

Jacksonville Animal Care and Protective Services, Jacksonville Humane Society, Community Cat Caregiver Corps--a volunteer driven organization we have convened that both traps and helps others trap cats.

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

When the cats are negatively impacting endangered species, we recommend moving the source of food, or, as a last resort, removing the cats.

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

Our Community Cat Caretaker Corps has a division that is trained in working with the caregivers and property owners by mediating disputes.

**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.**

Objectives

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

Our immediate objective for these funds is to spay or neuter 625 feral cats. This year we will receive \$150,000 in funding from the City of Jacksonville for feral cat surgeries which we expect to last approximately 6 months. When we have funding to provide free surgeries, we have performed as many as 543 surgeries in a month, not including the Feral Freedom surgeries of cats brought to the city shelter. Moreover, we have recently launched a Community Cat Caregiver Corps (CCCC), made up of volunteer community cat trappers who can be called upon to help others trap cats, bring them in for surgery and release the cats to their home territory. Our research suggests that if we can reach 9,262 spay/neuter surgeries each year (one for every 100 residents), and sustain it, we will be able to humanely control the feral cat population over the long term--our ultimate goal.

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

We know that if we can offer free surgeries throughout the year, our surgery numbers increase. In addition, with the formation of the CCCC, we can expect more ferals will be brought for surgery, allowing us to reach our 9,262 goal. This grant provide for 625 surgeries toward our ultimate goal.

Methods

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

This will cover community cats brought in by Duval residents.

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

We will promote this on Facebook and across our other social media platforms where we have more than 30,000 passionate followers. We will post information on our website and in email blasts as well as sending out press releases. We will also notify the members of the Community Cat Caretakers Corps.

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

Our Community Cat Caretakers Corps can help provide transportation and help breakdown other barriers.

**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.**

Most of the members of our Community Cat Caretakers Corps are experienced cat trappers and past participants in TNR programs. They can help and train the less experienced. Community members will be transporting the trapped cats in their own cars. We make it very clear that the cats must remain in the traps at all times.

Veterinary Services

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

We have 7 full-time veterinarians on staff who perform spay/neuter surgeries.

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="\$40.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>
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 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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Other Vaccination if Due</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<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 \$10.00
<b>Parasite 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 \$12.00
<b>HW Testing</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Feline Leuk/FIV</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$15.00
<b>County License</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Ear tipping</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>Microchip</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$10.00
<b>Other</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

**None of the anticipated grant funds can be used for any of the above services, except for pain medication.**

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

It is up to the trappers bringing in the cats if they want to pay the fees for the optional services. Generally speaking, the optional services are not requested.

**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.



<b>Name</b>	<b>Level of Involvement</b>
Cats Angels	This is a local cat rescue group
Community Cat Conservation Corps	This is a newly formed group that will trap community cats, bring them to our facility for surgery, and return the cats to their home territory. They will also train other community members, conduct education sessions, and, when necessary, mediate disputes with neighbors or homeowners associations.

#### Other Information

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

There are many community members willing to care for colonies of community cats and make sure that they have been sterilized. However, for many, the cost of surgery for a colony is prohibitive and if we are going to be successful in dealing with the cat population (and reduce kitten admissions to the shelter), it is essential that we be able to offer as many free surgeries as possible for this population.

#### Budget

**Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:**

**Cats: 625 Dogs: 0**

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

**Average cost/surgery projected: \$40.00**

**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 cost covers the exam, surgery, rabies vaccination and ear tipping. Any other cost, such as microchipping etc., must be paid by the trapper or person bringing in the cat.

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

We will receive \$150,000 from the City of Jacksonville this year for community cats. This will cover 3,500 cats which we expect to last approximately 6 months. In addition, we internally cover the shelter cats brought in through the Feral Freedom program. This will cover approximately 3,000 additional cats. We have outstanding grant requests, which in conjunction with this grant will help us reach our 9,262 goal.

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

7

#### Timeline

**All projects must be completed within 12 months of receipt of funding.**

**Projected start date: 07/02/18/ Projected end date: 08/15/18**

#### 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 expect to receive continuing grants from the City of Jacksonville for funding part of this program. We will continue our successful grant and fundraising programs all year long.

#### 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 with their final report.**

We will send a media release to our media database announcing the grant support and promoting the license plate. We include promotional links on our website and Facebook pages. Literature will be distributed at our public events, including our Mega Adoption events that attract up to 30,000 people annually. We will also distribute license plate information at our two clinics where we annually see 60,000 pets and the people who love them.