

Grant ID: 1698

Title of Proposal: Friendly and Feral Community Cat program
Agency Type: Municipal
Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00
Check Payable To: Osceola County Animal Services

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Osceola County Animal Services **Website Address:** www.osceolacountypets.com
Person Submitting Proposal: Kim Staton **Position:** Director
Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: kim.staton@osceola.org
Agency Head: Kim Staton Agency Head Email: kim.staton@osceola.org
Organization Business Address: 3910 Old Canoe Creek Rd. **City:** St. Cloud
State: FL **Zip:** 34769
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 407-742-8000 **Fax:** 407-891-1290
Cell: 816-510-5137

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:
Dates of Last Fiscal Year: **Begin:** 10/01/15 **End:** 09/30/16
Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$229,942.00
Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$2,372,076.00
Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 35 Part Time: 0
Number of Active Volunteers: 150
Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 500.00
How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? I have known of the program since its inception
Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if

applicable):

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 2015 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 0

	Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):	1448	2015	Big K-9 spay/neuter for low income families	Funded
	1698	2017	Friendly and Feral Community Cat program	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
Brandon Arrington	Board Chair	407-742-2000	Commissioner
Cheryl Grieb	Vice Chair	407-742-2000	Realtor
Fred Hawkins	Board member	407-742-2000	Director of Business Development and Legal Affairs for Waste Corporation of America
Peggy Choudhry	Board member	407-742-2000	Small business manager
Viviana Janer	Board member	407-742-2000	Corporate Accountant

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

4754 cats and 3678 dogs were admitted.

1045 cats and 1166 dogs were adopted.

3026 cats and 1123 dogs were euthanized.

1101 cats and 1223 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

- Stray/Lost pet intake
- Foster Program
- Wellness services to understand pet owners
- Volunteer Program
- Owner surrendered
- Food Bank
- Cruelty investigation
- High volume

animals **Lost and Found Program** **Behavior counseling** **Enforcement of ordinances****spay/neuter clinic** **Full service wellness clinic** **Adoption Program** **Disaster services****If your program performs adoptions, are all animals sterilized before adoption?**

No

If not all, what percentage of animals are not currently sterilized before adoption?

50%

If not all, how are animals selected for sterilization before adoption?

The most highly adoptable pets are spay/neutered before going into adoption areas. This includes pups, kittens, small dogs and very friendly medium sized dogs.

If not all, describe your sterilization policies and procedures for assuring sterilization after adoption:

If animals are not s/n before adoption, they are immediately placed on the surgery list for s/n upon adoption but PRIOR to being released to the public.

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 staff at Osceola County Animals Services has over a 150 years of combined experience in animal sheltering, veterinary services and care, field enforcement and animal welfare. The Director has 41 years experience in animal welfare including 8 years as an independent National Animal Welfare Consultant. She is a Certified Animal Welfare Administrator via the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators.

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 s/n all adopted pets in addition to impounded pets at the request of the owner. We offer a reduced fee to incentivize owners to s/n. The only low cost spay/neuter clinic, SNiP-it, opened in August 2016. Even though their fees are much lower than a typical veterinary clinic, they are still prohibitive for community cats that could include 10, 20 or more cats.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical Information service (GIS), etc.):	Kissimmee/34741-34748, 34758, St. Cloud/34769-34773
Total human population in target area:	120,000
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	19.4%
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	36364
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	30000
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	20000
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	2970
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	2507
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	2079

Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	752
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. I do not believe the targeted area animal population is significantly different than the numbers provided.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: We have many pockets where community cats have reproduced without restriction for many years. These colonies are quite large in some areas with numbers exceeding 100 cats. Many of the largest colonies exist in low income areas where residents don't have funds to pay for spay/neuter. We also have some cultural challenges where pet owners are opposed to spay/neuter because of their beliefs. Overcoming this obstacle is an ongoing educational process.	
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? The SNiP-it low cost spay/neuter Humane Alliance modeled clinic opened August 9, 2016. Their fees range from \$30-\$90 depending on dog/cat, male, female, etc. They have offered several low cost community cat specials but have not been open long enough for that to have made a meaningful difference. Also, even though fees are low, people who are feeding large populations of animals still cannot afford it. Osceola County Animal Services spays/neuters all adopted pets and offers low cost s/n to owners whose animals have been impounded. We also provide limited TNR services and they are worked into our daily surgery schedule. Local veterinary practitioners typically don't offer discounted spay/neuter services.	
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: <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 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.

Will include Kissimmee, St. Cloud, and Poinciana which is a combined geography of 110 square miles.

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

Must have someone willing to continue to provide care and trap incoming cats for TNR and be within targeted area. Cats must be part of a community cat colony and not owned.

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

This area is mostly residential but some commercial and agricultural properties are also involved. Although there are some rural areas included in the targeted zip codes, these areas continue to shrink with increasing development and land acquisition by developers. This pushes these cats into other areas where they sometimes merge with other colonies or exist in proximity to other colonies.

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area : 36000

Estimated number that are currently sterilized: 3600

Projected reduction after utilizing the grant: 833

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

Most community cat feeders are very committed to their colonies and are willing to continue to feed after TNR. An unofficial group has been formed in Osceola County to include local feeders, cat caregivers, and several groups to include SNIp-it, Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando, Care Feline, and Osceola County Animal Services. We are working together to increase the number of people who engage in TNR and helping to educate and provide TNR in areas where needed.

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:

Care Feline SNIp-it Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando Osceola County Animal Services

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

Much of this is about educating feeders, how they feed, where they feed, etc. We do not support having cat colonies near or in parks or wildlife sanctuaries. We also recommend the use of cat deterrents in areas where wildlife, birds, etc. are being fed.

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

We will loan various deterrents to people who are having nuisance issues with cats to include sonic devices, motion sensor activated water sprinklers, etc.

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.

We will identify the location of various colonies in the targeted areas and work systematically with groups/individuals to provide intensive trapping over short periods of time to get as many cats TNR'd in that area as possible before moving to the next colony. Each colony must have at least two people who are willing to feed, trap newcomers, and contact a designated entity if health problems are noticed in any colony member.

Objectives

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

Our goal is to facilitate the TNR of 833 cats from the targeted area of Osceola County. Ultimately, individual populations will be targeted so they can be kept under control as a managed colony. Consequently, a reduction in the number of cats coming into the shelter from targeted locations should occur.

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

Unless we have a mechanism to offer no cost surgeries to people who are feeding large cat populations in the

community, these animals will not be spayed/neutered. Free services are essential to getting colonies under control.

Methods

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

The only requirements will be the cat must not be owned, has to be from the targeted zip codes, and there has to be someone willing to assume responsibility for feeding and monitoring the colony post TNR.

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

We will promote the program via social media and collaboration with other organizations. We have options for paid advertising in area newspapers as well as radio advertising. Also, we plan to canvass areas prior to trapping to inform residents in the area of the service.

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

We have enough organizations and people willing to help with this effort that transportation should not be an issue. In terms of dealing with folks who may be illiterate, we will explain to them verbally what the program entails. We also have a diverse group of people involved who can help communicate the importance of spay/neuter and how it saves lives. Since we are represented by different cultures, we believe we have the ability to communicate effectively to our community.

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.

Yes, trapped cats will be transported by volunteers using their own vehicles as well as animal services vehicles including cargo vans.

Veterinary Services

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

The Snip it clinic and/or Osceola County Animal Services will perform 69-70 surgeries per month for a total of 833 surgeries.

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

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Osceola County Animal Services	3910 Old Canoe Creek Rd.	St. Cloud	FL	34769	407-742-8000	<input type="checkbox"/>
SNiP it of Central Florida	3096 Michigan Ave	Kissimmee	FL	34744	407-476-4748	<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="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$30.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$30.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$30.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$30.00"/>
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 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 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
HW Testing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Feline Leuk/FIV	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
County License	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input 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
Microchip	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" 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

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:

Each cat regardless of sex will be sterilized, given pain medications, rabies vaccination and license for the \$30 fee which will be taken from the grant at no cost to caregivers/colony managers.

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
CARE Feline	They will provide loaner traps for TNR, assist with trapping and educating.
Osceola County Animal Services	We will assist with area canvassing, transporting for TNR, and doing surgeries as requested/needed.
Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando	They will assist with educating people in targeted areas on the benefits of TNR and helping to facilitate trapping efforts.
SNiP it of Central Florida	This clinic will do most of the spay/neuter surgeries. They have set aside one Monday per month for this grant and can accommodate 52 cats each of those days. The remaining 17 surgeries that will need to be done that month will overlap into other week days.

Other Information

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

Working together and through the use of paid and volunteer staff, we believe we can identify high population cat colonies in the targeted areas and systematically get some of them under control. We will do this through intensive TNR in one colony at a time until we estimate enough cats have been spayed/neutered to drive the population down. This should be over 70% in any given colony.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 833 **Dogs:** 0

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$31.00

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

Rabies vaccinations will be included in the \$31 per surgery cost per animal as will pain medication at the time of surgery. Ear notching will also be included in the \$31 cost per surgery. FVRCP vaccines will be offered to caregivers at the cost of the vaccine plus \$2.00

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

We have no other grants for this program but will engage in donation solicitations at every opportunity to subsidize more cats or additional services.

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.

Projected start date: 05/22/17/ Projected end date: 05/21/18

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 will continue to solicit donations and write for grant funding to supplement opportunities for low/no cost spay/neuter services in Osceola County. These services will focus on community cats since they are the largest population of animals in our community and account for most of the animal euthanasia in the animal shelter.

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 promote this plate through social media, facebook, website etc. and will also do a press release if we receive funding as another means to promote the specialty plate. And we will have posters made for our lobby in addition to informational flyers to give to visitors at the shelter. We will provide posters to area veterinarians if they agree to post them in their clinics.