

Grant ID: 1693

Title of Proposal: Targeted Trap-Neuter-Release Program
Agency Type: Municipal
Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00
Check Payable To: Pasco County Board of County Commissioners

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Pasco County Animal Services **Website Address:** www.pascocountyfl.net/PAS
Person Submitting Proposal: Jessica Every **Position:** Customer Service Specialist II
Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: jevery@pascocountyfl.net
Agency Head: Michael Shumate **Agency Head Email:** mshumate@pascocountyfl.net
Organization Business Address: 19640 Dogpatch Lane **City:** Land O Lakes
State: Florida **Zip:** 34638
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 813-929-1212 **Fax:** 813-929-1218
Cell:

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: \$852,888.00
Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$2,516,013.00
Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 35 Part Time: 4
Number of Active Volunteers: 488
Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 276.00
How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Previously applied, Initially found through an email notification from FACA.
Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if

applicable):

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: Year(s) denied/incomplete: 1

	Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):	1477	2015	Targeted Trap-Neuter-Return Program	Denied
	1693	2017	Targeted Trap-Neuter-Release 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:

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

1789 cats and 2915 dogs were admitted.

832 cats and 1583 dogs were adopted.

427 cats and 312 dogs were euthanized.

950 cats and 1519 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

- Stray/Lost pet intake
- Foster Program
- Wellness services to understand pet owners
- Volunteer Program
- Owner surrendered animals
- Food Bank
- Cruelty investigation
- High volume spay/neuter clinic
- Lost and Found Program
- Behavior counseling
- Enforcement of ordinances
- Full service wellness clinic
- Adoption Program
- 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.

In 2011, Pasco County contracted with Spay Pasco, Inc. to implement and manage two county funded sterilization programs for Pasco County pets. The programs included a spay rebate program for dogs and a low-income rebate program for dogs & cats. In 2013, an additional program was added to the contract known as the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program for feral and community cats in Pasco County. Over the last few years, the spay rebate program has become the least used, followed by the low-income rebate program. However, the TNR program is now the most robust and has exceeded participation estimates and costs. The investments into the TNR program have been as follows: 2013 - \$45,000; 2014 - \$120,000; 2015 - \$132,000 and 2016 - \$137,250. Although the county rabies licensing revenue has funded all three sterilization programs, the investment into the TNR program has consistently increase which has resulted in the depleting of reserves to support the continuance of the program. Without additional funding sources the TNR program will undergo cut backs resulting in a return to higher cat intakes and euthanasia rates. The \$25,000 grant from Florida Animal Friends would allow for the additional sterilization of community/feral cats from the targeted area utilizing shelter veterinary services. Pasco County Animal Services has a veterinary department with one full time and one part time veterinarian and 5 full time veterinary technicians. Each TNR surgery will cost \$30.00 with no charge to the public. This will allow us to perform approximately 833 community/feral cats from the targeted area during the grant period which, in support of our other sterilization programs, will have a high impact in reducing overpopulation in the targeted area.

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 2013, Pasco County added the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program for feral and community cats to its other rebate programs for pet sterilization. Over the last few years, the spay rebate program has become the least used, followed by the low-income rebate program. However, the TNR program is now the most robust and has exceeded participation estimates and costs. The investments into the TNR program have been as follows: 2013 - \$45,000; 2014 - \$120,000; 2015 - \$132,000 and 2016 - \$137,250. Although the county rabies licensing revenue has funded all three sterilization programs, the investment into the TNR program has consistently increased which has resulted in the depleting of reserves to support the continuance of the program. 2017 is the first year were declining revenues has resulted in a reduction of available funds for the TNR program. This will lead to less cat sterilizations, higher cat intakes and an increase in cat euthanasia rates. The \$25,000 grant from Florida Animal Friends would allow for the additional sterilization of approximately 833 community/feral cats from the targeted area utilizing shelter veterinary services.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical Information service (GIS), etc.):	Zephyrhills (33540, 33541)
Total human population in target area:	49,839
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	7,396
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	15103
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	12460
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	8307
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	175
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	237
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	62
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last	18

year (if known)	
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. We believe the above information is accurate.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: Cats are allowed to run free in Pasco County because are not restricted by a leash law. As of 2017, licensing has become mandatory for cats, however there is still no leash law. The free roam policy and lack of pet owners sterilizing their free roaming cats has been a large contributor to community/feral cat overpopulation in the targeted area. In addition, there are fewer veterinary clinics on the east side of the county than the west side. Additional factors include seasonal residents cause an increase in the cat population during the fall and winter months and then leave pets behind when they return to their homes; low income families who cannot financially afford to sterilize their free roaming cats; and large retirement communities with elderly and fixed income residents who are less able to afford or access sterilization services for their community cats.	
What kinds of spay/neuter services are currently available in the target area and in what ways are these resources currently insufficient to meet community needs? Aside from private veterinarians, there is only one non-profit clinic in the targeted area. The high volume of senior seasonal and low income residents increases the number of unsterilized cats due to access and affordability.	
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 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.

The targeted area includes the following zip codes: 33540, 33541, 33542, and covers approximately 77 square miles in the Zephyrhills area.

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

The criteria selection is a high impact target area which consistently produces a large number of cat related intakes, cat service calls, hoarding cases, and large colonies of free roaming cats with limited resources to address the issues.

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

The Zephyrhills area consists of high concentrations low income families, large retirement communities with elderly and fixed income residents and seasonal residents. The target area is a combination of city, commercial, suburban and rural communities with a history of high cat populations.

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area : 8307

Estimated number that are currently sterilized: 1075

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.

There is a combination of colony care givers and residents who feed and care for community cats in the area. There are also local cat rescue groups who routinely assist in the target area.

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

Yes

Please explain what is allowed:

Cats are allowed to free roam in Pasco County as there is no leash law for cats. TNR programs are subsidized by Pasco County Animal Services through designated portions of licensing funding. Feral and Community cats are defined in Animal Control Ordinances with licensing exemptions.

(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:

Pasco County Animal Services, Spay Pasco, Inc., local cat rescue organizations, and City of Zephyrhills.

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

Community/feral cats produce less negative impacts area on wildlife in the target than new land development uses. Community/feral cat sterilization efforts and the reduction in community/feral cat populations may have a more long-term and positive effect on remaining wildlife.

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

Sterilization of a higher number of cats will in itself reduce some nuisance behaviors within the cat population. Additional Animal Control presence with educational materials, community outreach, and citizen education will also mitigate impact issues. Adding Community/Feral cat information on both county and city websites will also provide more public educational resources.

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.

A routine time and date will be set for cats from the targeted area to be brought to Pasco County Animal Services by participating citizens or transported in by Animal Control Officers. All sterilizations will be performed by our in house veterinarians. Return of cats to targeted area would be provided by the citizens who brought them in or by an Animal Control Officer.

Objectives

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

Our goal is to sterilize as many feral, community and free roaming cats as the grant funding will allow. We estimate the impact to be between 800 and 900 cats. In addition, we will be providing public information to citizens to better understand what the TNR program entails and how it will help reduce cat overpopulation and mitigate nuisance activities currently being experienced by unsterilized cats.

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

There is no additional program funding to increase the amount of cat sterilizations in the targeted area. If fact,

sterilizations will be reduced without obtaining alternative funding sources. The grant will provide funding for an additional 800 to 900 cat sterilizations in the targeted area.

Methods

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

Eligible cats must be from the targeted area, are unowned, to be returned to a colony, free-roaming, able to be ear-tipped and older than 3 months of age.

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

Pasco County has several advertising options including the assistance of partnering agencies such as Elderly Nutrition, Meals on Wheels, Spay Pasco, Libraries, and Animal Services. Other advertising options include websites, social media, flyers and press releases to local area newspapers in the target area.

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

Customers are generally relied upon to provide their own transportation; however, we do have a strong volunteer network to assist and can utilize our Animal Control Officers as well. Additionally, Animal Services has a mobile adoption vehicle that can be used on a scheduled basis for transport. We have bilingual staff that can assist with common language barriers and both staff and volunteers who can effectively communicate with those who may not be able to read or have limited informational access.

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 animals brought into the program must arrive in standard TNR traps. Clients are responsible for their own transportation and traps. However, traps and other transportation can be arranged by Animal Services and would primarily involve trained shelter staff or Animal Control Officers. A core group of Animal Services volunteers will be utilized for trap distribution and transportation of trapped cats.

Veterinary Services

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

All surgeries will be performed by veterinarians employed by Pasco County Animal Services.

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
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Range for Male Cats	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$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
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 type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Pain Medication	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Parasite Medication	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$10.00
County License	<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
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:

n

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
City of Zephyrhills	Allow for trapping in public areas, promote sterilization program, and identify specific target area needs.

Other Information

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

TNR sterilization through the grant funding will be exclusively operate, advertised, and administered through Pasco County Animal Services utilizing resources from veterinary, animal control, shelter, and volunteer services. The program will be available to citizens in the target area. Pick-up and return of qualified cats will be scheduled on specific days. The program will include health check, sterilization, rabies vaccination, and ear-tipping. Sick or infectious cats will not be admitted to the program. There will be no cost to the citizens participating in the grant program. Records for all sterilizations and funds expended will be maintained for grant reporting.

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: \$30.00

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

Administrative, advertising, transportation.

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

None.

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

75%

Timeline

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

Projected start date: 09/01/17/ **Projected end date:** 08/31/18

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.**

The county maintains a TNR sterilization program which allows for participation from the targeted area. In addition, the county will again seek other grants to support its sterilization programs.

Promotion of Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate

***Applicants selected for funding are expected to publicize their grant in support of their spay/neuter program and promote the sale of the Animal Friend license plate via press releases, newsletters, website links, social media, etc. Please describe your plan to promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate. Grantees are required to submit documentation of promotional endeavors with their final report.**

Advertisement will be provide through a link on the city and county website, social media outlets, handouts in the adoption center as well as in community areas in the targeted area, as a notice on the utility billings for the targeted area and press releases to local media outlets.