

Grant ID: 1734

Title of Proposal: Operation Nip it in the Bud  
Agency Type: Non-Profit  
Total Funding Requested: \$3,000.00  
Check Payable To: SGI Cat Allies Inc.

### Application Information

#### Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency:	SGI Cat Allies	<b>Website Address:</b>	sgicatallies.com
Person Submitting Proposal:	Deyton Gray	<b>Position:</b>	Volunteer
<b>Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:</b>	raydey@aol.com		
Agency Head:	Cathy Buell	Agency Head Email:	golfteecher2@aol.com
Organization Business Address:	234 Prado	<b>City:</b>	Apalachicola
State:	FL	<b>Zip:</b>	32320
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):	(850)370-1125	<b>Fax:</b>	
Cell:	(404)229-3989		

#### Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 08/28/2014

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: **Begin:** 01/01/16 **End:** 12/31/16

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$12,450.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$12,511.35

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

Number of Active Volunteers: 20

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 45.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Florida License Plate ad through facebook

Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if

applicable):

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: none Year(s) denied/incomplete: 1

	Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):	1655	2016	Operation S.O.S. (Snip or Spay)	Denied
	1734	2017	Operation Nip it in the Bud	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
Cathy Buell	President	(404) 229-3989	Retired Teacher
Dr. Donna Knutson	Director	(404) 518-9433	Deputy Director Center for Disease Control
Dr. Hobson Fulmer	Director	(850) 670-8306	Veterinarian
Dr. Will Rosenbaum	Director	(850) 670-8306	Veterinarian
Heleh Gore	Director	(615) 878-1284	Realtor
June Crawford	Director	(803) 648-4599	Owner Aiken Pet Sitters
Mary Ann Drurrer	Sec'y/Tres.	(850) 653-7010	Construction Office Manager

**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.**

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

**Briefly describe your animal programs:**

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

**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?**

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

**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.**

SGI Cat Allies has held many successful mass TNVR events hosted by our areas only Veterinarian Dr. Hobson Fulmer. However, our services remain in high demand. Operation Nip it in the Bud was designed to increase our effectiveness by utilizing alternate resources. Operation Spay Bay located in Panama City, FL has agreed to S/N 10-20 cats on a weekly basis with a target goal of 300 community cats. Cathy Buell, President of SGI Cat Allies will spearhead this project. She has effectively been lead administrator for our mass TNVR events. As a former Educator, Ms. Buell brings a myriad of skills and network contacts required to implement this program. She will be working directly with Terry Cotter of Operation Spay Bay 850-215-1022

**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?**

SGI Cat Allies has TNVR 556 community cats in the past 2 1/2 years. As a public charity, all of our funding to date has been through private donation and fundraisers. Over population of community cats mandates an increase in our program. Current fundraisers include hot dog sales at local events and six donation jars located in area businesses. For 2017, we are increasing our efforts by initiating a direct mail solicitation, a spaghetti dinner with silent auction, and application to available grants.

#### Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical Information service (GIS), etc.):	Apalachicola (32320) St. George Island/Eastpoint (32328)
Total human population in target area:	5,500
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	range from 10% for Apalachicola to 25.7% for Eastpoint, FL
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	1667
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	1375
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	917
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	157
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	N/A
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	130

Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	N/A
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. The area supports a huge free-roaming population confined to a relatively small area. One can not go to any of the three target areas without seeing cats. Tourists also mention our abundance of cats(in a good way) on Trip Advisor. We definitely feel we have a much higher amount than the standard estimate of 917 per our population. Backyard colonies are normal here. Area businesses also support and care for large colonies.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: Low socioeconomic status coupled with a poorly educated population that does not believe in S/N animals. Also our weather is quite mild and cats are able to have multiple unwanted litters per year. In the winter there is an absence of harsh freezing weather.	
<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> There is one Veterinarian in a 25 mile radius which means there are not many options. Currently the local Humane Society is offering vouchers to pet owners and there is our TNVR program.	
<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 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.**

Apalachicola (32320) 2.7 sq. mi. population 2,500; Eastpoint (32328) 7.3 sq. mi. population 2,350; St George Island (32328) 28 sq. mi. population 645.

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

Area residence are encouraged to contact us on Facebook or by telephone (850) 370-1125 to report sightings of community cats. In this small area, neighbors frequently just call those they know are volunteers. A weekly trapping list is compiled on a first come first serve basis. We are open to prioritizing according to reported colony size.

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

Apalachicola, Eastpoint, and St. George Island are small rural bayside communities separated only by two bridges. We answer all request both residential and commercial within this 10 mile radius.

**Estimated number of cats in the target colony area :** 1700

**Estimated number that are currently sterilized:** 600

**Projected reduction after utilizing the grant:** 300

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

There are an abundance of retirees in the area that enjoy providing for the colonies. However, financially it poses a problem to feed the colonies for many. This month we have established a food bank to assist these caretakers. Volunteer Angela Shields is spearheading this effort. Many local businesses from Restaurants to Realty Offices maintain and support several colonies. It is a very animal friendly community.

**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:**

St. George Island Civic Club, Franklin County Humane Society, Trinity Episcopal Church, City of Apalachicola

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

In addition to reducing by attrition the number of free roaming cats, we offer colony relocation services to community cats that may be a threat to nesting birds or other wildlife.

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

We consistently educate our citizens in the benefits of TNVR. Humanely reducing the numbers of free-roaming cats benefits the felines and the residents. As we are able to reduce the number of unwanted litters, the incident of nuisance issues also reduces. We also have experience in relocating colonies as a last resort.

**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.**

Door-to-door canvassing helps to identify colonies and provides a limitless opportunity to educate individuals, as well as groups, regarding the efficiency of TNVR programs. Locating the cats and trapping the cats are our responsibility. Our volunteer base is consistently increasing to accommodate the additional trapping.

Objectives

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

Right now we are reducing our reproductive cat population by approximately 250 cats annually. With this grant we would like to sustain our current level plus an additional 300 surgeries. The increased community contact also provides an excellent opportunity to educate the local and visiting population as well as informing them about Florida Animal Friends.

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

We will sustain our current level of approximately 250 surgeries per year. Given a time frame of 9-15-17 to 9-15-18 it would effectively increase our numbers to approximately 400 cats sterilized annually for 2017 and 2018.

Methods

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

All intact feral or community cats, at least three months old weighing at least 3 pounds, are eligible for our program.

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

Apalach Times, Oyster Radio, SGI Cat Allies Facebook page, SGIcatallies.com web page, civic meetings, fundraisers, and direct mail, Flyers in local grocery stores and other area businesses.

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

Cats will be trapped by SGI Cat Allies volunteers and housed in a secure environment. They will then be transported to Panama City by Operation Spay Bay in their 'Neuter Commuter" climate controlled cargo van and returned to us. Before we trap, we require the property owners signature on a permission form. It is during this interaction that we have the opportunity to educate citizens regarding the many benefits of TNVR.

**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.**

Trapping is lead by Cathy Buell. All volunteers are given a 4 hour training in appropriate protocol, including safety issues for both cat and volunteer. All volunteers sign a liability waiver kept on file at SGI Cat Allies. Once the cats are trapped a cover is placed over the trap to help keep them calm and they are held in a secure environment until pick-up by Operation Spay Bay driver Amy Wetzel.

Veterinary Services

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

Operation Spay Bay has two Vets on staff. We are charged an average of \$40 for surgery plus \$10 for Rabies vaccine per cat.

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

**Veterinary Practices**

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Operation Spay Bay	1600 Bay Ave.	Panama City	FL	32402	(850)215-1022	<input checked="" 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
<b>Range for Male Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$35.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$35.00"/>
<b>Range for Female Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>
<b>Range for Male Dogs</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>

**Range for Female Dogs**

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

	<b>Required, Optional, or Not Offered</b>	<b>Fee to Client?</b>
<b>Examination</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>Rabies Vaccination if Due</b>	<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="\$10.00"/>
<b>Other Vaccination if Due</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
<b>Pain Medication</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>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 <input type="text" value="\$10.00"/>
<b>HW Testing</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
<b>Feline Leuk/FIV</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>County License</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$5.00"/>
<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 checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<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:**

We will be charged an average of \$40 for surgery. Ear tipping is done for free. We are charged an additional \$10 for the rabies vaccine.

**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
Apalach Times	Local Newspaper that generously promotes our efforts with details regarding what we do.
Bowery Station Pub	Sponsors fundraisers.
Franklin County Humane Society	Publicly promotes our programs on social media and maintains a list cats needing our assistance.
Grocery Stores: IGA, Big Top	Maintain colonies
Local Restaurants: Beach Pit, Bue Parrot, Coastal Restaurant, Black Marlin.	Maintain colonies.
Oyster Radio	Local radio station broadcast our efforts to inform the community.
Sometimes it's Hotter; Apalachicola Soda Shop; BJ's Pizza, Beach Pit	All maintain donation boxes for SGI Cat Allies
Trinity Episcopal Church	Sponsors S/N and encourages members to do the same.

## Other Information

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

We have been fortunate enough to have recently added to our list of volunteers. Andy Bass formerly with RedRover, Florida State Animal Rescue Coalition, and currently with the ASPCA of Tampa, FL, has moved to the area and has already become very active with us. Also, Bonnie Stewart has moved here from Oconee County Georgia where she was head of Dog Adoptions with her local Humane Society. That is just to name a couple of our trained/experienced volunteers that stand ready to assist in trapping to facilitate the ongoing success of our operation. We have purchased 25 TruCatch traps and made covers for them. Operation Spay Bay provides us with the opportunity to make St. George Island/Apalachicola Eastpoint a model success story for TNVR. Positive support through volunteering to donations from our Community and Vacationers has been outstanding.

## Budget

**Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:**

**Cats:** 300 **Dogs:** 0

**Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000):** \$3,000.00

**Average cost/surgery projected:** \$10.00

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

Remainder of surgery fees and Rabies vaccine will be paid for by SGI Cat Allies. Ear tipping and transportation are free of cost to us.



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

Florida Animal Friends grant, Petco grant in progress, PetSmart grant to be applied for in August. Additional fundraising will include direct mail solicitation and Spaghetti dinner with silent auction. We will also increase our hotdog sales at local events.

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

25%

Timeline

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

**Projected start date: 08/15/17/    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 should not be funding Operation Nip in the Bud in the future. The intent is to increase our effectiveness to where we have a manageable level of sterilized feral/community cats and our current program will suffice in keeping our cat population under control in this area of Franklin County, FL. Future plans are to expand to another small town in the County that is in desperate need of our services but we must get our current area under control before we expand.

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 certainly advertise on our Facebook page as well as our web page. We will have a local press release thanking all our many local business donors and agencies that have aided SGI Cat Allies in this endeavor.