Title of Proposal: Central Manatee County TNR effort Agency Type: Non-Profit Total Funding Requested: \$24,800.00 Check Payable To: Animal Network, Inc.

# Application Information

# Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Animal Network, Inc.

Person Submitting Proposal: Pam Freni

Person Submitting Proposal Email pfreni@yahoo.com Address:

Agency Head: Pam Freni

Organization Business Address: 4008 39th Street W. State: fl Phone (xxx-xxx-xxx): 240-481-1522 Cell: Website www.animalnetworkinc.com

Position: President

Agency Head Email: pfreni@yahoo.com City: Bradenton Zip: 34205 Fax:

# **Agency Details**

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 05/24/2004

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/01/18 End: 12/31/18

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$91,341.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$102,970.00

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

Number of Active Volunteers: 10

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 40.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Received grant in 2017.

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 2009, 2017 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2012

	Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
	88	2009	Animal Network Community Spay/Neuter Fund	Funded
	260	2011	Animal Network Community Spay/Neuter Program	Denied
Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):	314	2012	Animal Network Community Spay/Neuter Fund	Denied
	1426	2014	Targeted Spay/Neuter in Manatee County	Denied
	1738	2017	North of Manatee River S/N Effort	Funded
	1850	2019	Central Manatee County TNR effort	Funded

# Describe your Organization:

Services Provided

- Open Admission Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter

Foster Network

# Organization Structure:

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

### Animal Control

Spay/Neuter Services

Rescue	Group
Other	

**Other** Animal welfare org., providing s

#### List your current board of directors:

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation
Debi Mathews	board member	941-962-8044	retired nurse
Debra Starr	board member	813-597-4116	realtor
Joanne Sampson	Vice President	941-753-0104	retired
Kathy Gutierrez	board member	941-228-9576	retired software analyst
Mike Mathews	Treasurer	941-962-6871	IT analyst
Pam Freni	President	240-481-1522	retired
Scott Walraven	board member	941-758-7473	medical staff
Sue Kolze	board member	941-216-4829	retired sales manager
Wendy Crawford	Secretary	941-776-2094	retired bank 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.

472 cats and 234 dogs were sterilized.

#### Briefly describe your animal programs:

Stray/Lost pet intake	Eoster Program	Wellness services to understand pet owners	<b>Volunteer Program</b>
Owner surrendered animals	Food Bank	Cruelty investigation	High volume spay/neuter clinic
Lost and Found Program	Behavior counseling	Enforcement of ordinances	Full service welness 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.

Animal Network has funded community spays/neuter and trap-neuter-return programs from grants and our organizational fund raising budget for many years. We write grant requests to augment funding needed in our community when concerns arise such as the rising human population's contribution to the pet population (both owned and feral cats). These have included an FAF spay and neuter grant for \$20,550, Petsmart Charities spay and neuter grant for \$25,000, and grants from local foundations for various amounts supporting our TNR and spay/neuter programs. This request will be administered by Sue Kolze, board member and Mike Mathews, Treasurer, using two local high volume, low cost s/n clinics--Humane Society of Manatee County (HSMC – surgery services only) and Animal Rescue Coalition (ARC – surgery and transportation services). Our TNR program events will be organized by board member Scott Walraven in coordination with two feral trapping and education organizations--Gulf Shore Animal League and Feline Friends of Southwest Florida (trapping and education services). We have collaborated and coordinated many programs with these groups, ensuring that each understands their role and that each approaches the effort professionally.

# 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 2018, we completed our most recent FAF grant using \$23,400 to support spay and neuter in a targeted area of the county, and we have continued the program using additional spay and neuter grants from our local foundations (total \$7,000 from Jan 2019-March 2019). In a recent twelve-month period, we used our 2017 FAF grant and Animal Network organizational funding to support free spay/neuter for over 700 owned pets in our most recent targeted area. We have realized though, that TNR efforts in Manatee County are often the last program considered by local organizations. Grants are received by many local groups supporting owned cats and dogs, but since ferals/community cats are often hard to trap and transport, less support is provided for TNR. Those organizations that utilize grants supporting TNR are continually short of money, and any momentum experienced in the feral cat management area is constantly in jeopardy of backtracking when the effort is not funded.

# **Target Population**

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical Information service (GIS), etc.):	Manatee County zip codes 34203, 34207, 34208, 34221, and 34243
Total human population in target area:	180418
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	13%
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	54673
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	45105
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	30070
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	631
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1495
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	n/a
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.

This area of Manatee County is accurately described in the data above according to Census.gov as far as human population is concerned when the records were created, but the targeted area of 34203, 34207, 34208, 34221, and 34243 are growing in human population by thousands of humans each year, much of it not officially recorded, yet. These areas are targeted based on economic levels manifested by the housing types— concentrations of trailer parks, low-cost housing, duplexes, and transient population concentrations. We find that these families often barely have enough funds to manage spay and neuter of their personal pets, much less any free roaming animals in the area, allowing feral cat colonies to become perpetually populated and growing. Local grants provide a certain amount for support of owned-pet spay and neuter, but there is a noticeable lack of funding provided for the humane management of ferals. We have begun concentrating in these areas of most need and will provide TNR services there first.

#### Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:

The reasons are varied and complex, but include pets that were once owned pets being allowed to become members of local colonies through neglect, lack of education on overpopulation of pets, abandonment due to owner deaths, and the transient nature of many employment opportunities to name some of them. Additionally, a significant number of the dogs are contributed by careless owners and backyard breeders. A significant concern we have in Manatee County is the resistance to sterilization as an unnatural state.

# 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?

For paying clients, there are dozens of veterinarians who practice within the county, many within easy reach of the targeted areas. Significant portions of the targeted population of un-sterilized cats and dogs are owned by those who do not have funds and transportation to a vet's office. Identifying a specific location available for low cost spay and neuter while ensuring that funding is provided, goes a long way toward incentivizing owners to take their animals to the low-cost spay/neuter facilities available. Most can't afford to include community cats and feral care as well. So, feral, community, and other free-roaming cats will be trapped by Animal Network partners and transported for surgery, bypassing the issue of sufficient funding and transportation. These will be trap/neuter/return populations, ensuring that the colonies are returned to their home territories.

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:

□ Pets in low-income families □ Pit Bull / large breed dogs ☑TNR managed colonies of feral cats ☑ Community cats (freeroaming and/or owned) □ 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.** Zip codes 34203, 34207, 34208, 34221, and 34243 – approximately 150 square miles.

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

Animal Network is coordinating with other local organizations to ensure that TNR efforts are made available to all parts of the county. The target area in this proposal covers zip code areas with high human populations, but also those with a lower incomes. The more economically challenged areas are in more need of TNR support based on the lack of disposable income of the target areas residents. The criteria also considers housing types (trailers, manufactured, and rental concentrations).

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

Zip code areas 34203, 34207, 34208, 34221, and 34243 are mostly urban and suburban with small rental housing areas, trailer courts, and moteltype transient housing, with a significant concentration of small businesses.

#### Estimated number of cats in the target colony area : 30000

#### Estimated number that are currently sterilized: 15000

#### Projected reduction after utilizing the grant: 478

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

Animal Network, along with collaborating organizations, maintains communications with key owners and caregivers of cat populations within many areas of the county. Hundreds of feral colonies are actively managed by people who are fully dedicated to the long term care of their colonies. We regularly coordinate with many of them, including Howard who is the caretaker of a colony comprised of approximately 30 cats at the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. We coordinate with him to provide food for the cats.

#### **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:

Numerous organizations within Manatee County support the concept of TNR including Manatee County Animal Services (MCAS), Humane Society of Manatee County (surgery services only), Beach Vet (surgery services only), Animal Rescue Coalition (surgery and transportation services), Gulf Shore Animal League (trapping, transportation, and feral cat education), Feline Friends of Southwest Florida (trapping and feral cat education) and the Manatee County Commissioners.

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

Un-owned cats are creatures of nature, hunting for food and in the process potentially damaging the ecosystem. Both birds and small mammals are targets, and in areas that are targeted for TNR, the population growth rates will be considerably less as cats are fixed, ensuring that bird and small animal deaths will also diminish. Additionally, sterilized cats tend to roam less, creating less damage to the local wildlife.

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

Nuisance issues are in the eyes of the beholder, but the noise and damage to the animals caused by cats fighting is troubling to almost everyone within hearing distance. Territorial spraying is also problematic. Both of these issues can be mitigated significantly by spaying and neutering free-roaming cats. Additionally, fewer fertile females ensure fewer kittens appearing in neighborhood back yards.

#### 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.

Animal Network has witnessed the stratospheric rise in our human population (an additional 10,000 per year), creating a significant rise in the feral cat population due to lost and abandoned pet cats. This program relies upon our network of volunteers to execute the program and includes at least two groups who specialize in low-cost surgical sterilizations. There will be intensive coordination of trapping expeditions to ensure at least 70% of each colony is sterilized.

# Objectives

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

Animal Network will use any grant funds provided to execute our TNR program in the five neighborhoods in Manatee County that are within zip codes 34203, 34207, 34208, 34221, and 34243. Since significant TNR efforts consistently occur in 34205 through the efforts of our collaborative partner, Gulf Shore Animal League, Animal Network is concentrating on other, but adjacent, areas. Housing areas will be chosen and those with significant feral and free-roaming populations will be targeted with notification flyers and other forms of communication. Sterilization events will be executed using Humane Society of Manatee County and Animal Rescue Coalition surgery facilities until all 478 cat slots in this phase of the program are used. Our organization currently receives a significant number of calls for TNR support from these areas and we respond with the funding we have on hand. Being able to provide TNR to entire colonies through potential funding from this grant will significantly help manage the size of these colonies.

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

In 2018, Humane Society of Manatee County provided TNR services for 1,365 feral cats, Animal Rescue Coalition provided 126 Manatee County surgeries, and Manatee County Animal Services (county shelter) provided 244 for a total of 1,735 known TNR surgeries. Concerned citizens and other organizations provided additional services, so the total is estimated to be approximately 2,000, annually. If we are funded as requested, we will add another 478 surgeries in 2019 and another 240 surgeries from other pending funding for a program total of 718. This translates to Animal

Network adding approximately 1/3 more TNR surgeries in 2019 than in all of 2018. With nearly 2,700 TNR surgeries in 2019, we will be ensuring that hundreds of unwanted, and often un-socialized kittens will not be added to our feral colonies.

### Methods

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

We will provide trapping, transportation (if necessary), and spay/neuter services to all feral cats from the target zip code areas (34203, 34207, 34208, 34221, and 34243). We must be able to fully TNR at least 70% of the cats in each colony, so we will trap the entire colony. If our trapping partners cannot fully support trapping an entire colony, we will provide TNR services to colony managers in each of our zip code areas as well.

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

As mentioned earlier, advertising for TNR support is mostly not necessary. So many neighborhood residents and colony managers currently contact us, that we never have enough funding to respond to everyone in need. That being said, we will trap in areas where we are invited to enter if: (1) they are free-roaming and permission is gained to trap on private property; or (2) they are free-roaming and are managed by a colony caretaker who gives permission.

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

One of our supporting TNR trappers (Gulf Shore Animal League) has a transport van that will be used to move cats in the traps and one of our clinics (Animal Rescue Coalition) also owns a transport van available. Additionally, an Animal Network program called Student Advocates for Animals will be used to inform school-aged members of families, who live within the targeted area, of the program's availability. This educational effort will give Animal Network access directly to many homes, overcoming any possible language barrier and cultural issues. Animal Rescue Coalition has several multi-lingual staff members who will serve as translators if needed. We will also be in direct coordination with feral colony managers and neighborhood leaders to ensure that we gain full access to colonies in need of TNR support.

# 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.

Both Animal Rescue Coalition and Gulf Shore Animal League have transport vans specifically designed for animal transport. Each van has crates built into the body of the van and tie-downs for any traps used to move cats. All cats will either be moved while still in traps or will be moved to one of the van's crates. All personnel using and driving the vans are fully checked out in the operation and safety equipment of the vans. Each person executing the TNR services has liability releases or liability insurance to support the safety to the handlers and the animals.

Veterinary Services

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

Animal Network has no in-house vets, so we use private vets as our collaborative organizations --Humane Society of Manatee County (5013c), Beach Vet (private vet), and Animal Rescue Coalition (5013c).

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

#### **Veterinary Practices**

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Animal Rescue Coaltion	6320 Tower Ln,	Sarasota,	FL	34240	(941) 957-1955	$\checkmark$
Beach Vet	4404 124th St Ct W,	Cortez,	FL	34215	(941) 792-2838	1
Humane Society of Manatee County	2515 14th St W,	Bradenton	FL	34205	(941) 747-8808	1

#### 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	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
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  $\checkmark$  Yes, Fee to client  $\checkmark$  No

	Required, Optional, or Not Offered	Fee to Client?
Examination	Required Optional Not Available	💿 No 🔵 Yes
Rabies Vaccination if Due	Required • Optional O Not Available	○ No • Yes \$7.00
Other Vaccination if Due	Required Optional Ont Available	○ No • Yes \$8.00
Pain Medication	Required Optional Not Available	● No ○ Yes
Parasite Medication	Required • Optional O Not Available	○No • Yes \$15.00
HW Testing	Required      Optional      Not Available	○No•Yes \$5.00
Feline Leuk/FIV	Required • Optional O Not Available	○No • Yes \$15.00
County License	Required • Optional O Not Available	○No • Yes \$15.00
Ear tipping	Required Optional Not Available	● No ● Yes
Microchip	Required Optional  Not Available	• No Ves
Other	Required Optional • Not Available	💿 No 🔵 Yes

### None of the anticipated grant funds can be used for <u>any</u> of the above services, except for pain medication.

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

Because of a slight difference in the business models of Humane Society of Manatee County (\$48), Beach Vet (\$50), and Animal Rescue Coalition (\$55), the prices per surgery are slightly different with a weighted average of approximately \$50. Each cat will be provided with the spay and neuter surgeries using appropriate pain mitigation and anesthesia drugs. Manatee County ordinances requires ear-tipping which will be done for free. Occasionally, one of the cats will require additional antibiotic drugs and Animal Network will pay for that from its annual organizational fund raising.

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
Feline Friends of Southwest Florida	Feline Friends of Southwest Florida will provide neighborhood education on the availability of TNR for feral/free roaming cats and trapping support.
Gulf Shore Animal League	Gulf Shore Animal League will provide neighborhood education on the availability of TNR for feral/free roaming cats, trapping support, and transportation.
Manatee County Animal Services	Our county animal services organization provides leads for trapping needs and legal oversight of TNR process.

# Other Information

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

We will coordinate with any feral colony manager or neighborhood members to ensure that they stay informed as to the trapping events being done by Animal Network, Gulf Shore Animal League, and Feline Friends of Southwest Florida. We will intensively trap for two days per event so as many ferals as possible are spayed or neutered before returning them, also ensuring that there will be no cats trapped twice, wasting time and effort. Transports provided by Animal Rescue Coalition and Gulf Shore Animal League will be used to deliver the trapped cats to either Humane Society of Manatee County, Beach Vet, or Animal Rescue Coalition for dedicated surgery days if the size of the population warrants it. After complete trapping, all cats will be returned to their original territories and additional coordination will occur with the local colony manager or neighborhood coordinator.

## Budget

# Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 478 Dogs: 0

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$24,800.00 Average cost/surgery projected: \$50.00

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

Convenia injections will be provided as needed by each spay and neuter organization to support the health of the cats. Animal Network will pay for all Convenia.

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

Animal Network has provided grant proposals to two local community foundations that if fully funded will provide TNR for an additional 240 cats.

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

66

### Timeline

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

Projected start date: 08/15/19/ Projected end date: 08/01/20

### **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.

Animal Network continues to access several grants from local foundations which are used to sustain our spay/neuter and TNR programs. Additionally, we complete significant fund raising during each year, most of which is used to support these 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.

We use social media to celebrate all of our successful grants, including any FAF funding we receive. We provide local print media with press releases and include any receipt of funding in our local presentations. Additionally, we provide the FAF data cards to many local outlets including the Humane Society of Manatee County and the Manatee County Animal Shelter.