

Grant ID: 1871

Title of Proposal: Project Pit Stop

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$24,155.00

Check Payable To: Clay County Humane Society, Inc

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Clay County Humane Society, Inc.

Website Address: www.ClayHumane.org

Person Submitting Proposal: Claire Hall

Position: Assistant Director

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: claire@clayhumane.org

Agency Head: Linda Welzant

Agency Head Email: lwelzant@clayhumane.org

Organization Business Address: 2230 Filmore Street

City: Orange Park

State: FL

Zip: 32065

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 904-276-7729

Fax: 904-276-4236

Cell: 904-626-1267

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 05/02/1981

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$2,665,604.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$2,710,110.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 28 Part Time: 1

Number of Active Volunteers: 60

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 25.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Previous Award Recipient

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 2006,2008,2011,2013,2015,2017 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2010

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
160	2010	2010 Spay Campaign	Denied (not completed)
267	2011	Feral Friday Campaign	Funded
369	2013	Operation Free Cat Sterilization	Funded
1489	2015	Free Feral	Funded
1587	2006		Funded
1588	2008		Funded
1710	2017	Focus on Ferals 2017	Funded
1871	2019	Project Pit Stop	Funded

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

**Describe your Organization:
Services Provided**

Organization Structure:

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

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

List your current board of directors:

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation
Bob Ehrenberg	Director	904-264-9377	Computer Consultant
Chris Keyworth	Director	904-272-6733	Retired Educator
Doug Havens	Vice President	904-272-4311	Contractor - NAS Jax
Gerald Milan	Director	904-272-5130	Retired - Jax Sheriff's Office
Judy Stebler	Director	904-465-1135	Nurse
Linda Lake	Treasurer	904-910-2440	Supervisor - Seminole Electric
Lisa Lemen	Director	904-282-7422	Loan Officer
Mary Fortson	President	904-608-3133	Retired
Nancy Simmons	Secretary	904-626-1267	Entrepreneur

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

34 cats and 11 dogs were admitted.

34 cats and 11 dogs were adopted.

0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

34 cats and 11 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?

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.

Since transitioning to a low cost, full-service clinic in 1991, Clay Humane has been on the frontline battling the pet overpopulation problem. In 2013, we introduced a free cat sterilization program that was open to all cats - owned or free-roaming, local or from far away - as our most aggressive approach to finally winning the battle. Since its inception, we have sterilized more than 27,000 cats, including 8,000 ferals from area colonies. We aim to launch a program that offers the same for dogs in the near future. Our skilled veterinarians and support staff perform greater than 240 surgeries per week and are ever dedicated to our mission of ending the needless euthanasia of healthy cats and dogs in our shelters.

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?

Today, Clay Humane's free cat sterilization program is the most recognized spay and neuter effort in our community. Because we are the only organization to offer completely free spays and neuters without restrictions and even without outside funding, the demand for appointments is great. To help meet the needs of cat owners and caregivers in our area, we have increased our support staff and added an additional veterinarian, have tripled the number of cat surgeries we perform each day, and have designated Wednesdays as "Feral Day" on which no appointment is required (and as many as 75 feral cat spays and neuters are performed). Since launching the program, we have sterilized 27,041 in total, including over 8,000 feral cats- as many as were sterilized in the ten previous years total - preventing hundreds of thousands of unwanted births and, in turn, countless senseless deaths on streets and in shelters. Although we offer the free service to cat owners/ feral caregivers anywhere, priority scheduling consideration is given to Clay County families and colonies. Our efforts are evident in the declining shelter cat intake numbers. In 2013,

at the time of the program's inception, Clay County Animal Care and Control took in 2526 cats. In 2014, the shelter's cat intake dropped to 1942 and continued to drop in 2015 to a total cat intake of 1499. 2018 saw the lowest intake number (excluding TNR numbers) of less than 800 cats. This incredible decrease represents the most significant in shelter history, particularly as it is coupled with unprecedented human population growth in our community. It is with this encouragement that we continue to expand this far-reaching program and plan to add free pit bull sterilizations to our efforts, as well. Despite our inspiring cat sterilization effects, many dogs still find their way to our area shelters. Most are pit bulls or pitbull mixes and hounds/ mixes who regularly are unsterilized and go unclaimed. It is our goal to direct efforts to reduce these numbers, as well.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):	Northeast Florida to include Clay, Duval, St. John's, Baker, Nassau, and Putnam Counties with a focus on Clay County
Total human population in target area:	1,200,000
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	13.6
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	363637
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	300000
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	200000
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	n/a
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)	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. n/a	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: Our community is a mostly rural area comprised of middle to low-income families. Few affordable sterilization programs exist in the large target area that are capable of serving those whose budgets do not allow for even reduced rates. Our programs focus on these populations, feral colonies, and the pit bulls/ hounds who disproportionately fill our shelters.	
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? Private veterinary clinics offer pet sterilization, but at costs outside of many pet owners' budgets. Other low cost options exist, but, advertised free spays and neuters require lengthy qualifying forms and travel into "undesirable" areas of our community. We hear the complaints often from pet owners who call us for assistance.	
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input checked="" 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.

Our primary focus remains feral and owned cat populations in Clay County, but we extend our free services to surrounding counties' cat owners and colony caregivers, as well. Our goal is to sterilize an additional 1,200 feral cats - 7 recently identified colonies in rural Keystone Heights, Clay County consisting of more than 400 cats, approximately 200 cats living on Camp Blanding property in our county, and an additional 600 brought in from other colonies in Clay and surrounding counties. (Plu

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

Currently identified colony cats are eligible for this program, as well as future managed colonies identified by our caregivers.

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

Current targeted populations are located in areas primarily rural and on a military base.

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area : 2500

Estimated number that are currently sterilized: 0

Projected reduction after utilizing the grant: 1200

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

The colonies we target are identified via caregivers that we have worked alongside since the program's inception. They are extremely dedicated to caring for these colonies in effort to eventually eliminate said colonies through attrition.

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

Yes

Please explain what is allowed:

Following lengthy debates before our County Commissioners, the combined efforts of area animal welfare advocates prevented the mass trapping and euthanasia of feral colony cats. TNR measures were approved for identified and future managed colonies with Clay Humane taking the lead on these efforts.

(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:

In all counties we serve, animal control organizations and governing bodies, feral caregivers and advocates support our efforts. We have a weekly segment on the morning news show for all area counties that highlights these efforts.

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

As licensed wildlife rehabilitators, we have seen first hand the negative impact roaming cats can have on wildlife. As such, it is our goal to eliminate through adoption/ relocation programs, cat colonies existing on public wooded lands, first. These colonies remain a consistent priority for our efforts and the visible effort to protect wildlife helps foster goodwill among wildlife and cat advocates.

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

Over the years we have been called upon to assist with colonies on commercial lands that were facing euthanasia due to nuisance complaints. In many cases, Clay Humane performed free sterilization of the cats, provided colony management education, assisted with rehoming adoptable cats, and, on occasion, relocated to private properties as needed.

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.

Our free cat sterilization program has been highly successful, and funding is always needed, but we believe we must direct further attention, also, to the consistent number of pit bull/hound/ mixes that outnumber all other breeds in finding their way into our shelters.

Objectives

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

Our goal since transitioning from a no-kill shelter to a low cost spay and neuter clinic in 1991, has always been to reduce/ eliminate the senseless euthanasia of healthy animals in our community. Although not yet a no-kill county, Clay is on its way. Our free cat sterilization program, coupled with Animal Services' own TNR program, have significantly reduced the number of cats entering the shelter. But, we still have work to do. According to Clay County shelter statistics, the most represented breed entering our shelter each year is pit bulls (and pit bull mixes) followed closely by hounds. It is our plan to perform free spays/neuters of hounds and pit bulls/mixes in an effort to reduce their large numbers in local shelters. With the help of Clay County Animal Services, we will target those in need for the free service.

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

Our current spay and neuter program is only limited by the amount of funding our wellness clinic, private donations, foundation funding, and fundraising monies can support. Each year, we sterilize approximately 1200 feral cats, 5000 owned/free-roaming cats and 1800 dogs. Funding from Florida Animal Friend would allow us to focus our efforts specifically to increase feral cat numbers by 1200 and pit bull/ hound sterilizations by 350 or more.

Methods

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

Aside from the currently identified colonies and feral caregiver recommendations, there are no eligibility requirements for cats, except they must only transport and provide follow up managed care. Keeping with our existing indigent program for dog sterilizations, we will require that all dogs in a household must be sterilized in order to qualify for free services.

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

Our current spay and neuter program is only limited by the amount of funding our wellness clinic, private donations, foundation funding, and fundraising monies can support. Each year, we sterilize approximately 1200 feral cats, 5000 owned/free-roaming cats and 1800 dogs. Funding from Florida Animal Friend would allow us to focus our efforts specifically to increase feral cat numbers by 1200 and pit bull/ hound sterilizations by 350 or more

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

By working cooperatively with local shelters, rescue groups, volunteers, colony caregivers and advocates, media outlets, and local business owners, we are better able to identify those in need, including feral populations. Together we are able to trap, transport, release, and control the growth of colonies and, in turn, shelter numbers. We have partnered with local colony caregivers to hold instructional courses for proper trapping and return techniques, as well. Our greatest struggle will be to educate and overcome the stigma of neutering pit bulls, in particular - an ever-present hurdle in our largely rural community. We are developing door hangers and rack cards specifically addressing this issue for future use.

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.

The program does not involved transportation of animals by anyone other than the client, but we do have several trappers/transporters in different areas of our community prepared to assist, as needed.

Veterinary Services

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

Clay Humane has operated a low cost, full service veterinary clinic since 1991. We currently staff 4 full time veterinarians and will increase to 5 this summer. Our veterinarians share our passion for a more humane world and work tirelessly to achieve our goal of a no-kill community through spay and neuter efforts.

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

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Clay County Humane Society, Inc.	2230 Filmore Street	Orange Park	FL	32065	904-276-7729	<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
Range for Male Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$9.50"/>	<input type="text" value="\$9.50"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$13.90"/>	<input type="text" value="\$13.90"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$24.70"/>	<input type="text" value="\$24.70"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$31.10"/>	<input type="text" value="\$31.10"/>

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 checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
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 type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$5.00"/>
HW Testing	<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="\$20.00"/>

Feline Leuk/FIV Required Optional Not Available No Yes

County License Required Optional Not Available No Yes

Ear tipping Required Optional Not Available No Yes

Microchip Required Optional Not Available No Yes

Other Required Optional Not Available No 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 day, the Society offers 25 free cat sterilizations (up to 75 on feral Wednesdays). Costs associated with each cat or dog spay/neuter includes veterinary exam and surgical time, rabies vaccination, pre- and post-op medications, and surgical materials. Additional vaccinations, testing, and preventative treatments are always recommended, but not required. Funding would allow for 1200 feral cats and 350 dogs to be sterilized for free. (assuming continued 60:40 spay to neuter ratio).

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
5 C's Cat Care	Cat advocates within Town of Orange Park who assist with identification and transport of colonies, as well as trapping and training trapping techniques to the public for TNR program.
Clay County Animal Services	Clay Humane and Clay Animal Services have always maintained a close relationship because of a shared goal of no-kill communities. Animal Services provides us with assistance in identifying feral colonies, dogs in need of sterilization (particularly pet owners with limited funds).
Friends of Clay County Animals (FOCCA)	AS the volunteer group for Clay Animal Services with a focus on increasing adoptions within the shelter, FOCCA shares our primary objective of reducing shelter intake. Together, we focus on reducing the number of dogs entering the shelter and on TNR efforts.

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 planned 4 special Saturday dog spay/neuter clinics for 2019/2020. We also began an after hours surgery/urgent care program in 2018, that despite the blow to our budgeting early on, has provided us additional hours/opportunity to meet the demand for sterilizations and miscellaneous care otherwise unavailable to working individuals.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 1200 **Dogs:** 350

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$24,155.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$16.00

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

Each year we receive approximately 500 doses of vaccinations donated by a vendor to help with our efforts. We are also hoping to have microchips donated to offer at no cost to the dog owners at no charge, as well. However, any other expenses (misc vaccinations, test, etc) are at the owners' expense.

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

Allocated funds generated via our wellness clinic, private donations, "spay it forward" contributions, and fundraising events throughout the year currently fund our sterilization program. We received no grant/ funding in 2018, and still surpassed previous year efforts. But, funding this year is critical to meeting our growing demand.

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: 08/01/19/ **Projected end date:** 07/31/20

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.**

As noted, our wellness clinic has supported our spay and neuter programs since our clinic's inception in 1991. Although we have budgeted funding to ensure the program's survival, it is not enough to meet the community's demand, particularly with the newly established after hours/ Saturday schedules and the costs associated with those. We have been fortunate to receive funding support, and to have developed outstanding community support because of the program's success.

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.**

Promotion of the Spay and Neuter license plate can be found constantly present on our website and social media pages, as well as noted regularly in print media and in our quarterly newsletters. We also promote the plate at educational booths, on our door hangers and rack cards, and during our morning news show segment "Ask the Vet."