

Grant ID: 1826

Title of Proposal: The Big Fix

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00

Check Payable To: Flagler Humane Society

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Flagler Humane Society

Website Address: 1 Shelter Dr.

Person Submitting Proposal: Amy Carotenuto

Position: Executive Director

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: acarotenuto@flaglerhumanesociety.org

Agency Head: Amy Wade-Carotenuto

Agency Head Email: acarotenuto@flaglerhumanesociety.org

Organization Business Address: 1 Shelter Dr.

City: Palm Coast

State: FL

Zip: 32137

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 386-445-1814

Fax: 386-445-5843

Cell: 386-566-3734

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 10/01/1980

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 10/01/17 **End:** 09/30/18

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$1,445,711.03

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$1,395,898.04

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 21 Part Time: 13

Number of Active Volunteers: 160

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 540.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Have been familiar with Florida Animal Friend organization for years and years. We have been awarded the grant which was a Godsend, helping eliminate many issues with community cats in our area.

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 2013, 2015 & 2017 Year(s) denied/incomplete:

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
381	2013	Controlling Community Cats	Funded
1481	2015	Community Cat Diversion	Funded
1691	2017	The Big Fix	Funded
1826	2019	The Big Fix	Funded

Describe your Organization:

Services Provided

- Open Admission Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter
- Foster Network
- Animal Control

Organization Structure:

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

- Spay/Neuter Services
 Other

Other

List your current board of directors:

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation
Dave Zaslavsky	Board Member	386-931-0195	Retired
Isabel Conde	Treasurer	386-338-2163	Banker
Karen DeSalvo	Secretary	386-246-6867	Retired
Laura Gazzoli	Vice President	386-931-1881	Home Builder
Lori Zimmerman	Board Member	386-449-9506	Mortgage Lender
Maria Lavin-Sanhudo	President	386-569-9041	Banker
Patty Murphy	Board Member	585-729-1402	Realtor
Tim Conner	Board Member	386-447-0134	Attorney

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

1674 cats and 1175 dogs were admitted.

1057 cats and 766 dogs were adopted.

140 cats and 64 dogs were euthanized.

1370 cats and 591 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?

The only animals not sterilized are those with severe health or age issues that the doctor sees as unsafe to have surgery. Probably less than 1%.

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

Before, when we weren't able to sterilize everyone prior to adoption, we had a follow-up program in which we made phone calls and even visited animals in the home.

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.

FHS is an open admission shelter and has been acting as the area's animal control facility and the only full service shelter in the county since opening our doors in 1982. We have multiple programs aimed at helping pet owners be the best they can be. We host a wellness clinic, a pet food bank, dog training etc.

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?

Currently we have to charge those who are coming in to have their pets sterilized. We have had grants in the past to assist owners with large dog sterilization (PetsMart) but that funding is no longer in effect. We saw a huge increase in dog surgeries scheduled when we were able to offer free surgeries for large dogs.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):	Flagler County
Total human population in target area:	102,917
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	13.2%
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	31187

Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	25730
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	17153
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1674
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1175
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	140
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	64

Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.

We believe the actual demographics are about the same as estimates from the census bureau.

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

Thanks to the FAF grant in years past and several other programs aimed at helping cats, the cat issue is relatively under control. We need help assisting owners who have large dogs yet they do not have the income to provide all of the veterinary care that is needed. We offer a low cost clinic and help them with vaccines and heartworm testing. If we were awarded the FAF grant we could offer fee waived sterilization surgery to lower income families. Compliance would skyrocket and unwanted litters would drop immensely.

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?

FHS has a low cost program and a county rebate program. A \$25 county spay/neuter rebate is available to any member of Flagler County no matter which veterinary hospital they go to. They send in their receipt and we send them their rebate check. FHS Low Cost Spay/Neuter program is staffed by our doctor and techs inside the shelter. Fees for surgeries range from \$83 to \$123. for male dogs depending on weight and from \$93. to \$138 for female dogs depending on weight. We do surgeries three days per week, so we are able to keep up with the demand, we just cannot always help those who are unable to pay.

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 (free-roaming 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.

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

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

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area :

Estimated number that are currently sterilized:

Projected reduction after utilizing the grant:

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

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

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:

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

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

**Will the cats be ear-tipped?
Will the cats be microchipped?**

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

Objectives

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

We tend to rate our success by analyzing numbers within the shelter. This leaves out the very important population of animals within our county that we don't see. Perhaps there are animals giving birth whose offspring neither find good homes, nor end up in our shelter. That is the population that is of tremendous concern....the puppies who die from parvo on a back porch. The male dog who gets killed by a car while chasing a female dog in heat. Targeting our lower income areas with spay/neuter opportunities so good that they cannot refuse will save lives and improve quality of life. Since we provide animal control services we know of many families who would take advantage of the help. Our officers in the field can map out where the need is most highly concentrated. They will go door to door in these areas.

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

There isn't a week that goes by that we don't have people hang up on us after we quote our low cost sterilization prices. Although our prices are the lowest in the county, they are still more than what some families can afford. Our officers also know of entire low income neighborhoods with large dogs that need to be sterilized. At FHS we have the facilities to perform surgeries and we have Dr. Suzy Broadhurst who performs as many as 40 surgeries per day. If the demand became too high, we would add more days to our surgery schedule as needed, or we would use one of our outside veterinary partners such as Dr. Tom Freiberg.

Methods

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

A brief interview will be conducted either out in the field by our animal services officer, or in our lobby with a walk in or phone customer. We don't want to deny an animal in need. So although proof of residency and identification will be required and there will be an interview, we will not require proof that the pet owner is on government assistance. Too often people who work hard and are in need of assistance fall through the cracks when so much is required to determine eligibility.

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

Flyers will be posted in social services buildings such as Flagler County's Health Department. There are several family parks in our lower income areas at which our officer can post flyers. We have three Facebook accounts (One for the shelter, one for Animal Services and one for our Thrift Store. Information regarding the grant will periodically be posted on Facebook and Instagram. We can include flyers in bags at our thrift store and we even have a couple Pizza delivery places that have allowed us to post flyers on Pizza boxes. We will mention the grant funding on our radio show "Speaking of Animals" which airs in Flagler County Saturday mornings and on demand on line at WNZF. Much of the advertising for an opportunity like this is done by our officer speaking directly to pet owners in the community.

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

We are blessed to have staff from various cultural backgrounds and who speak languages besides English. So, if there are language barriers or prejudices against a certain staff member, then we can match the messenger so that pet owners feel comfortable with whomever is speaking with them. Our forms are brief, and staffers often read them to pet owners who have literacy issues. Our officers often transport animals belonging to pet owners who do not have available transportation. If officers are busy, we have a volunteer network that signs up just to run errands involving animals. There would not be an issue with helping get animals to and from their surgery appointments.

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 shelter has a total of four vehicles. We have one old style animal control truck, with metal cages built in to the back of the truck. This truck is safe to transport large and small dogs, even unruly dogs. We have a nice, new Dodge ProMaster Van which can transport multiple dogs inside as we stack wire crates inside in air conditioned comfort. We also have two other vehicles that are used simply for shelter errands. Either of those are fine to transport dogs, if the primary vehicles are in use. If someone other than our trained officers or staff is providing transport, we would send a pre-approved volunteer that has some training in animal handling. Liability waivers that have been approved by our board attorney are used. We would simply be transporting the animals, not the dog owners.

Veterinary Services

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

Our facility has a large surgical suite with areas for prep and recovery. Our primary doctor, Dr. Suzy Broadhurst is proactive in all things shelter medicine and teaching responsible pet ownership. She averages 40 surgeries per day so we believe that we can keep up with the demand and are excited for the challenge. We also have Dr. Kevin Eastman who fills in as needed at our facility, usually one day per week. Outside veterinary

hospitals like Freiberg's Healing Paws in Ormond Beach have always partnered with us and will provide sterilization surgeries if demand exceeds our ability to provide needed services in a timely manner.

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

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Flagler Animal Hospital	130 Old Kings Road S.	Flagler Beach	Florida	32136	386-439-1606	<input type="checkbox"/>
Freiberg's Healing Paws	1437 N. Hwy. US1	Ormond Beach	FL	32174	386-615-7297	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tomoka Pines Veterinary Hospital	750 S. Nova Rd.	Ormond Beach	FL	32174	386-672-3137	<input type="checkbox"/>

Fee Range

What is the fee range to be paid for spay and neuter and what is the distribution to be paid by the client vs. the grant program? Keep in mind that Florida Animal Friend grant funds may only be used for costs directly associated with sterilization surgery (including anesthesia and pain control) and not for other items such as vaccines, testing, licensing, and capital purchases.

	Amount Paid by Client	Amount Paid by Project	Total Amount
Range for Male Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$60.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$60.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>

Please check each item below to indicate additional services offered at the time of surgery, whether the client is required to pay for them, and if so what the fee is. For example, if an examination is required for surgery but is not charged to the client it would be marked: Required Yes, Fee to client No

	Required, Optional, or Not Offered	Fee to Client?
Examination	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Rabies Vaccination if Due	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$12.00"/>
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="\$15.00"/>
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="\$25.00"/>
Feline Leuk/FIV	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
County License	<input 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 type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" 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 type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input 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:

If the animal had a mass that needed to be removed or other surgical need, our veterinarian might opt to combine that surgery with the sterilization, thus saving the animal from having to undergo two separate anesthetics. We would most likely not charge the owner for the additional surgery unless the owner opted to have a biopsy. Only then would we charge the owner enough to cover our hard costs on laboratory work.

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
Our local tag office	Who better to spread the word of the great work that the license plate does? The staff at the Flagler County tag office are great friends with us. Last year they had donation jars at their desks in which donations came to FHS. They would be happy to advertise free spay/neuter for pets in need thanks to the grant.
Palm Coast Animal Control	Palm Coast Animal Control brings their lost and stray animals to us, so their officers know all too well where there are needs in the City of Palm Coast. They will help spread the word about the opportunity for spay/neuter of large dogs through Florida Animal Friend. they will also help with transportation.
Paws of War / Pet Peeves Dog Training	Lauren Driscoll, the owner of Pet Peeves Dog Training and founder of Paws of War (which trains and provides dogs to veterans) is a volunteer for FHS. She works constantly helping animals to remain in homes. She convinces owners with unsterilized pets that spaying and neutering often curbs some behavior issues. She will gladly share news of grant funding that will help owners who have problems affording spay/neuter.
Sophie's Circle	Sophie's Circle is an adoption partner that acts as a rescue group and pet food pantry. We work closely together. We often help each other. Sophies Circle volunteers will help spread the word of the grant funding and might even help with transportation of pets if the need arose.
WNZF Radio	Our local station provides us with air time for our show "Speaking of Animals". Our staffer, Gary Perkins hosts the show. He will advertise the free spay/neuter. If anyone from FAF would want to be on the radio show, we tape on Thursdays at 2:30. It would be great to discuss the tag and the grant.

Other Information

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

We are dedicated to making Flagler County a "No Kill" community. Our statistics are very close, which for an open admission shelter that also serves as the animal control facility, is amazing. We aren't satisfied with that though. For years the focus has been on sterilizing the cats and that focus paid off. Numbers of feline euthanasia have dropped dramatically since FAF first helped us in 2013. We collaborate with several other agencies in and out of Flagler County. There is one constant question from the public "Do you have the ability to offer free spay/neuter for large dogs?" We are hoping that Florida Animal Friend will help us answer that question and help even more animals than we do now.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 0 **Dogs:** 350

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$72.00

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

Necessary vaccines would be paid for by the pet owner. If we have a case or two where a good owner absolutely cannot afford to even pay for vaccines, we can dip into our "Angel Fund" and cover the costs if absolutely necessary. Costs for advertising will be minimal and can be absorbed into our humane education and office supply budget. With staff time being billed to humane education and printing of flyers being marked as office supply.

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

We have a small budget allocation called "Angel Fund". Funds in this category can go to helping pet owners who are unable to pay for other needed services like dewormer rabies vaccines and medical emergencies that we might come across while providing a pre-surgical exam.

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: 09/01/19/ **Projected end date:** 08/31/20

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.**

Thanks in part to previous grants from Florida Animal Friend, our feline population within the shelter continues to drop each year. With fewer animals residing in the shelter, that puts less of a strain on a tight budget. If we can assist the owners of large dogs in their sterilization, then our intake numbers should continue to drop, as these would be the customers who would be surrendering litters of puppies. Less intake of animals means that funds that would normally be spent to feed and clean could then be used on programs to help animals out in the community. One of those programs is always spay/neuter. We have a new veterinarian working with us who watches closely to ensure that we are receiving the best deals from our medical distributors. We continue to fund raise to support all of our spay/neuter programs. We watch for grant opportunities that might help our ability to offer free sterilization for dogs. We partner with grantors which often helps our chances for receiving their assistance. For instance, we are a part of the Million Cat Challenge, we send our stats in to Shelter Animals Count, we are partners with Best Fiends, ASPCA and HSUS. I am on the board of directors at Florida Animal Control Association and Florida Association of Animal Welfare Organizations. Between all of our partnerships and my board associations, we're pretty aware of grant opportunities. We publish both hard copy newsletters and e-blasts, both of which are awareness raisers and fundraisers. Our Humane Hero membership continues to grow.

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.**

FHS has one of the largest Facebook followings in Flagler County. We also have a large Instagram following. Advertising the grant in social media is free and far reaching. We also host a radio show every Saturday with a growing following. Florida Animal Friend can not only be mentioned, but if you have a representative that would like to be a guest on the show, we could do an interview by phone. The radio show is on WNZF and can be listened to on Saturday mornings on the radio or on the website on demand. We have a great relationship with local newspapers, who often publicize a story upon our request. Our thrift store has moved to a newer, even busier location, so Florida Animal Friend flyers can be handed out with each purchase. Flyers can be placed at our local health department and social services offices. We have a great friendship and partnership with Flagler County Sheriff's Department. They will be given the information so that they can help spread the word. Lastly, pizza boxes are our friend. A few of the local pizzerias have allowed us to temporarily post 1/4 page flyers on the tops of their pizza boxes. This reaches a crowd that we haven't tapped yet. Lastly, we have a great friendship with Flagler County's tag office. They placed donation jars in their lobby for us last year and brought us several hundred dollars as a result. They would allow us to decorate their lobby as they promised that they would place donation jars again for us this year.