

Grant ID: 1839

Title of Proposal: Operation SNIP (Spay Neuter Initiative Pensacola)

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00

Check Payable To: Friends of the Escambia County Animal Shelter

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Friends of the Escambia County Animal Shelter

Website Address: www.ecasfriends.com

Person Submitting Proposal: Laura Booth

Position: President/Founder

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: ecasfriends@gmail.com

Agency Head: Laura Booth

Agency Head Email: ecasfriends@gmail.com

Organization Business Address: PO Box 11553

City: Pensacola

State: FL

Zip: 32524

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 478-324-2041

Fax:

Cell:

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 07/15/2015

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$114,613.40

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$104,327.74

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

Number of Active Volunteers: 50

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 800.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Previously awarded a Florida Animal Friends grant in 2017. Prior to that, we were made aware of Florida Animal Friends at the awards reception for 400 Paws Inc.

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 2017 Year(s) denied/incomplete: N/A

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1703	2017	Operation SNIP (Spay Neuter Initiative Pensacola)	Funded
1839	2019	Operation SNIP (Spay Neuter Initiative Pensacola)	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
Christina Walmer	Board Chair	850-324-4302	Food Systems Specialist for UWF
Kim Rainer	Vice President	850-982-0272	Full Time Volunteer
Laura Booth	President/Founder	478-342-2041	Medical Manager
Michelle Hoffman	Board Chair	850-619-2961	Full Time Volunteer

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

164 cats and 348 dogs were admitted.

162 cats and 340 dogs were adopted.

1 cats and 4 dogs were euthanized.

267 cats and 129 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?

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:

All of the cats and dogs under the care of Friends of the Escambia County Animal Shelter are altered prior to adoption. All animals adopted from Escambia County Animal Shelter are altered prior to adoption as well.

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.

Friends of the Escambia County Animal Shelter (FOTECAS) was founded in July 2015 as a 100% volunteer operated organization with the intent of providing the resources necessary to increase the quality of life and adoption rates of the animals housed at Escambia County Animal Shelter. All proceeds go to benefit the animals in the shelter and community through our support, enrichment and medical programs. We participate in regular offsite fundraising events in the community, bringing awareness of the importance of responsible pet ownership and the benefits of adopting shelter pets to the public. Since inception, we have taken on 30 major medical cases, assisted with the treatment of over 80 heartworm positive dogs and transported 1,341 animals to areas of the country less burdened with pet overpopulation. The board of FOTECAS strategically builds each program from the ground up, depending on our community's needs, and has complete oversight of the day to day operations of these programs to make sure each one is running as efficiently and productively as possible. We allocate 10% of our monthly revenue into each of our programs. Our current programs include: 1) Heartworm Treatment Sponsorship Program- We live in one of the most heavily inundated areas of the country for heartworms. Many of the dogs in our shelter are heartworm positive and that often decreases their chances of being adopted. Our Heartworm Treatment Sponsorship Program assists adopters with full or partial sponsorship of the treatment of heartworms upon adoption from Escambia County Animal Shelter (ECAS). We have found that having this assistance provides adopters with the support they need to overcome the barriers they face of adopting a heartworm positive dog. 2) Titan's Fund - A fund for animals who need life saving procedures to survive. These dogs and cats end up at the shelter after being victims of trauma, abuse or neglect. 3) Enrichment Program - A volunteer driven program to provide mental and physical stimulation for the animals currently residing at Escambia County Animal Shelter. 4) Dogs With A Drawl Transport Program - Transporting adoptable cats and dogs from overcrowded shelters in our community to our life saving shelter partners in Northern states. 5) Fospice Program- Providing end of life palliative care to terminally ill or elderly cats and dogs who enter our shelter system in the comfort of a loving and dedicated Hospice Foster home. 6) Operation SNIP- Providing high quality, low cost spay/neuter services to low income families in need of assistance with sterilizing their pets.

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?

Operation SNIP is currently operating as one of our most robust programs and the need for continued sterilization assistance in our community is overwhelming. Additional resources are needed in order to continue expanding this program, maximizing the amount of people and pets we are able to assist, while targeting areas in our community with the greatest need for assistance. Our goal for the Florida Animal Friend 2019 grant is to assist animals currently at the highest risk of overpopulation, which continue to be bully breed type dogs and cats. Through the funding of the 2017 Florida Animal Friend grant, we were able to expand the program to include two counties with extremely high euthanasia rates in their municipal shelters- Escambia and Santa Rosa County. Both counties continue to be in a state of crisis with pet overpopulation. While both counties

are making progress with decreasing euthanasias in the shelter, additional resources are needed to prevent these animals from ending up in the shelter system to begin with. One of the most effective tools to combat this is accessible spay/neuter services.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):	Escambia County FL and Santa Rosa County FL
Total human population in target area:	487,784
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	16.4% in Escambia County and 10.2% in Santa Rosa County
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	147814
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	121946
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	81298
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	6,880
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	5,667
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	4,683
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1,518
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. Our proposal for this grant is targeting cats and the highest at risk dog breeds most commonly found in Escambia and Santa Rosa County Animal Shelters, which are bully breed dogs. We estimate that the dog breeds who fall under this category comprise approximately 70%-75% of shelter intake and euthanasias in these two shelters. Between both counties, 68% of cats entering the shelter system are killed. These numbers above are for euthanasia only and does not include the number of animals who die in custody, usually the result of disease transmission due to the overcrowded shelter conditions.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: The most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the Escambia and Santa Rosa County area are pets in low income families, bully breed dogs and community cats, both free roaming and owned.	
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? The only spay/neuter service available in Escambia County other than Operation SNIP is the Barbara Grice Memorial Spay/Neuter Clinic run by Pensacola Humane Society. While it is considered 'low cost,' there are still families who lack the resources to have their animals altered through this program and there is usually a month or more waiting period to get an appointment. Santa Rosa County has a spay/neuter program under A HOPE for Santa Rosa County. They are currently partnered with a spay/neuter clinic about two hours away and run transports every two weeks. The client does get a lower fee for alter services, but also has to pay a transport fee in addition to the alter fee. These reservations fill up very quickly and often people are not able to meet at the transportation drop off and pick up locations.	
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 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.

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area : 0

Estimated number that are currently sterilized: 0

Projected reduction after utilizing the grant: 0

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

N/A

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:

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

Will the cats be ear-tipped? No

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.

N/A

Objectives

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

The primary objective of Operation SNIP is to provide high quality, low cost, accessible spay and neuter services to pets of low income families in Escambia and Santa Rosa County. While we do have a low cost clinic in the area, we find there is still a gap for those who are unable to afford the low cost pricing, let alone full price veterinary care. We offer our services on a flat rate \$25 co-payment basis per animal to fill in the gaps our community is experiencing. This co-payment includes the alter surgery and a rabies vaccine if the animal is not current. By vaccinating the animal for rabies and sterilizing it, we are also decreasing the likelihood the animal will develop certain cancers, roam, be injured or picked up by Animal Control and brought to the shelter. In turn, this eases the financial burden on the families by keeping their pets in place at home where they are loved and avoiding fines from Animal Control or costly vet bills down the road. The specific objective for a \$25,000 grant from Florida Animal Friends would allow FOTECAS to alter 454 cats and 69 dogs that would otherwise likely not get altered and potentially contribute to the pet overpopulation crisis. By targeting our objective to primarily bully breeds and cats, we are honing our efforts on the animals most likely to both end up in and die in the shelter system. Since these counties are still euthanizing 68% of the cats entering the shelter system each year, we will use 75% of the FAF grant to perform cat alters and the remaining 25% for dog alters. This will allow us to neuter 284 cats, 37 dogs and spay 170 cats and 32 dogs.

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

We have found that people want to do the right thing by their pets, they just may not have the tools to do so. With Operation SNIP, we are providing the tools necessary for families to have the help they need while also easing the burden on our already overcrowded shelters and rescue groups. This grant would allow FOTECAS to alter nearly 525 animals, which would have a substantial impact on the number of homeless animals in our community.

Methods

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

The criteria used to determine eligibility for Operation SNIP will be proof of financial need and proof of residency in Escambia or Santa Rosa County.

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

FOTECAS will advertise the program by sending direct mail flyers to target areas, email blasts and by social media. We have nearly 9,000 followers on social media and a robust emailing list of supporters. We are also fortunate in our Vice President has a background in marketing and public relations.

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

If a problem arises with transportation, illiteracy and/or cultural barriers, we have a very active volunteer base who is excited and eager to help in any way possible. Our mail out fliers and emails can be bi-lingual as needed. With regard to transportation, in every case of a transportation issue thus far, the client has been able to find a friend, family member or church member to assist with the transportation to the 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.

This project does not involve transportation of animals by someone other than the client.

Veterinary Services

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

We have a partnership with Ferry Pass Animal Hospital to provide the surgeries. We have partnered with them for over three years and have a great working relationship.

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

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Ferry Pass Animal Hospital	8065 N 9th Ave	Pensacola	FL	32514	850-478-0287	<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="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$33.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$58.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$55.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$85.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$110.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$100.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$125.00"/>

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 checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>
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="\$16.00"/>
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="\$0.00"/>
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	<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="\$28.00"/>
County License	<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="\$11.00"/>
Ear tipping	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Microchip	<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="\$0.00"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

None of the anticipated grant funds can be used for any of the above services, except for pain medication.

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

The alter price includes pain medication and a nail trim at no additional cost. Current rabies vaccinations are required. If there is no proof of current rabies, one will be given on the day of surgery. FOTECAS pays for the rabies vaccinations on all Operation SNIP pets. The other vaccines are optional at the cost to the client and vary in price between \$14-\$18 per vaccine. Dewormer, HW/Flea medication costs also vary, as do the costs of implanting a microchip.

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
Pensacola News Journal	FOTECAS has a good working relationship with Pensacola News Journal and several of the reporters are animal lovers who would be happy to do a story on Florida Animal Friends Grant going to Operation SNIP and FOTECAS.
WEAR TV Pensacola	FOTECAS has a good working relationship with our local television media outlet and know several of the news reporters both personally and professionally. They are always available to us for news stories such as this.

Other Information

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

The community of Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties continue to be in dire need of subsidized spay/neuter surgeries. The families we have assisted in the past with alterations have been so overjoyed to receive the help they need. We truly feel that with the proper support, these people want to do what is right for their animals and not contribute to the pet overpopulation problems in our community. Operation SNIP is a valuable program not only for FOTECAS, but for the people in our community, their pets and the animals currently in our municipal shelters. The board of FOTECAS is very careful with expanding our current programs to make sure they are sustainable for the future. We are confident that this program, given the opportunity to be awarded the Florida Animal Friend Grant, will have a positive impact on our community. We currently have over 150 pets going through the application process and continue to receive more applications daily. We have no doubt the funds from a full Florida Animal Friend grant will be used within the time frame of the grant cycle. Having these funds dedicated strictly to bully breed dogs and owned cats will allow us to also use other revenue streams for this program towards non bully breed dogs and stray community cats.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 454 **Dogs:** 69

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$48.00

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

Rabies vaccines will be paid for by Friends of the Escambia County Animal Shelter (\$11/vaccine) and administered at the time of sterilization unless the owner can provide proof of rabies vaccination.

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

We allocate 10% of our monthly revenue to Operation SNIP. Additionally, we have applied for the local 400 Paws grant of \$3,000,

which will be decided later this spring and we do targeted fundraising for the program, both on social media/mass email marketing and community fundraising.

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

85

Timeline

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

Projected start date: 08/01/19/ **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.**

Our plans to continue to fund Operation SNIP in the future include private and corporate donations, specific targeted fundraising and various grants from other agencies. Additionally, we allocate 10% of our revenue into this program every month. We also have had extremely generous support from our community for this program. During the time we were using the 2017 Florida Animal Friend grant money and promoting Operation SNIP, we had tremendous support from the community that lead to being able to perform roughly 130 additional surgeries over what was projected with the grant money just from marketing what we were doing in partnership with Florida Animal Friends.

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 have roughly 9,000 followers on social media and regular email blasts that go to over 500 people in our community. We will promote the Florida Animal Friend License Plate Program on these social media outlets as well as reference the funding source and program on any and all flyers as well as our website. Additionally, we will place marketing material from Florida Animal Friends in both Escambia and Santa Rosa County Animal Shelter.