

Grant ID: 1869

Title of Proposal: Fix Levy County Pets

Agency Type: Municipal

Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00

Check Payable To: Levy County Animal Services

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Levy County Animal Services

Website Address: http://www.levycounty.org/department/animal_services/index.php

Person Submitting Proposal: David Weatherford

Position: Director

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: animalservices@levycounty.org

Agency Head: David Weatherford

Agency Head Email: animalservices@levycounty.org

Organization Business Address: 12055 NE 69th Lane

City: Bronson

State: Florida

Zip: 32621

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 352-486-5138

Fax: 352-486-5491

Cell:

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$393,199.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$378,596.77

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 6 Part Time: 0

Number of Active Volunteers: 2

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 10.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Word of mouth

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 0 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 0

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1869	2019	Fix Levy County Pets	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
John Meeks	Commission Chair	352-486-5218	Commissioner
Lilly Rooks	Commissioner	352-486-5218	Commissioner
Matt Brooks	Vice Commission Chair	352-486-5218	Commissioner
Mike Joyner	Commissioner	352-486-5218	Commissioner
Rock Meeks	Commissioner	352-486-5218	Commissioner

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

1162 cats and 928 dogs were admitted.

45 cats and 227 dogs were adopted.

476 cats and 59 dogs were euthanized.

45 cats and 227 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stray/Lost pet intake | <input type="checkbox"/> Foster Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Wellness services to understand pet owners | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Program |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Owner surrendered animals | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Bank | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cruelty investigation | <input type="checkbox"/> High volume spay/neuter clinic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lost and Found Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Behavior counseling | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enforcement of ordinances | <input type="checkbox"/> Full service wellness clinic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adoption Program | <input type="checkbox"/> 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.

Currently, Levy County Animal Services has limited space and resources to perform spay/neuter surgeries. Sterilizations performed in-house are limited to shelter dogs and cats with a few spots a week open for feral/community cats and publicly owned cats and dogs. In order to reduce pet overpopulation and eliminate the euthanasia of healthy and treatable cats and dogs in Levy County, we rely on the only high-volume, low-cost spay/neuter clinic in our community, Operation Petsnip at the Humane Society of North Central Florida. While Levy County Animal Services will administer a Florida Animal Friend grant, the experienced professionals at the Humane Society will be contracted to perform the direct services and will partner with us to publicize the availability of free spay/neuter surgeries for Levy County residents.

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?

Levy County Animal Services currently sterilizes adoptable dogs and cats just prior to their adoption. We also offer limited slots for community/feral cats and publicly owned dogs and cats to be sterilized at our facility. Unfortunately, we do not have the space, staffing or resources to offer high-volume spay/neuter surgeries in-house to meet the need in our community.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):	Levy and surrounding counties
Total human population in target area:	40355
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	20.8
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	12229
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	10089
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	6726
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1162
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	928

Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	476
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	59
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. There are three Town/City run shelters in Levy County: Inglis, Williston and Cheifland. The intake numbers from these three shelters are not included in the data tracked by the county. Therefore the number of intakes and euthanasia is likely significantly higher than what is reflected above. Furthermore, Levy County is visited by a substantial number of outdoor enthusiasts which also accounts for additional animals that have been lost, left unwanted or unclaimed.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: Levy County is a very large, mostly rural community with a high percentage of low- to middle-class residents. Culturally, many pets are obtained solely for protection of homes, land and farms. Due to the socioeconomic status of most Levy County residents, many are unable to provide proper vetting or spay/neuter for their pets. Those factors along with the sheer number of free-roaming, uncontained animals plays a large part in the pet over-population our community struggles with.	
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? Levy County has several private veterinarians. Unfortunately, due to income restrictions, not everyone is able to utilize these services especially when spay/neuter fees are normally based on weight. Larger animals tend to be more expensive, so even middle income families have a difficult time paying such a large fee. There are no high-volume, low-cost spay/neuter clinics in Levy County. The closest provider is Operation Petsnip at the Humane Society of North Central Florida in Alachua County.	
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 type="checkbox"/> Pit Bull / large breed dogs <input 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.
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? 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.

N/A

Objectives

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

Using grant funds from Florida Animal Friend, Inc., we hope to sterilize 300 cats and 100 dogs. The objective of sterilizing these cats and dogs is to ultimately reduce our intakes and thus reduce euthanasia of healthy and treatable cats and dogs in our shelter.

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

Currently, Levy County Animal Services is sterilizing dogs and cats as they are being adopted only. We are also offering limited availability for public spay/neuter (2 surgeries per day). A grant from Florida Animal Friend would drastically increase the number of public pets being sterilized and thus account for fewer unwanted litters being born and ending up in our shelter.

Methods

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

Our program will focus on low-income pet owners. Thus, we will determine eligibility based on the following documentation: Medicaid, Food Stamp or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) cards, pay stubs, or federal income tax returns. We will also accept participation in other low-income programs to qualify. Eligibility will be determined at the time spay/neuter is scheduled by our surgery provider.

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

We will advertise the program through our county communications office through all available channels. We will also ask our partner rescues, shelters and other groups to advertise this grant on our behalf.

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

As county employees, we are members of this community and thus we have personal relationships with many of the individuals accessing services for their pets. We will also employ the assistance of volunteers and other rescue groups to address any transportation needs that arise.

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.

Animals are transported by their owners. Should a pet owner need help with transporting their animals, their pets will be transported by an experienced volunteer and in the confinement of a secure crate to the surgery provider.

Veterinary Services

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

The Humane Society of North Central Florida's (HSNCF) Operation Petsnip is our region's only high-volume, low-cost, ASPCA/Humane Alliance trained spay/neuter clinic. Levy County Animal Services has arranged with HSNCF to provide all spay/neuter surgeries at reduced prices.

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

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Operation Petsnip at the Humane Society of North Central Florida	4205 NW 6th Street	Gainesville	Florida	32609	352-373-5855	<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="\$50.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$100.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$100.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$100.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$100.00"/>

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 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="\$20.00"/>
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="\$20.00"/>
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 checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$30.00"/>
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 checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Microchip	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>
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 \$50 for cats and \$100 for dogs includes a basic exam, anesthesia, surgery and pain medication. This cost will also include rabies vaccination at no charge, if due. Other vaccinations, microchips, and testing are all available for an additional fee.

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

Name	Level of Involvement
Animal Allies of Levy County Animal Services	Advertise grant
Haile's Angels Pet Rescue	Advertise grant, refer clients for surgery.
Humane Society of North Central Florida	Provide surgeries, refer clients, advertise for grant, transport animals for surgery.

Other Information

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

Levy County Animal Services is committed to working with our partners and with our community to increase our live release rate. We intend to reach out to the citizens of Levy County about the availability of spay/neuter services for their unaltered pets. We are hopeful that our community will take advantage of these services and we will see a reduction in intakes at Levy County Animal Services as a result.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 300 **Dogs:** 100

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$63.00

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

The Humane Society of North Central Florida has generously offered to provide vaccines at no cost to Levy County Animal Services or to the pet owner should a dog or cat be due for its vaccination. Any other optional services will be at the owner's expense.

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

We do not currently have any additional funding for this program.

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.**

Levy County Animal Services will continue to seek out funding for municipal shelters from other grantors like Petco Foundation and PetSmart Charities. Our partner rescues and organizations also frequently write grants and other funding proposals that are inclusive of Levy County's pets.

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.**

Levy County Animal Services will advertise and promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate on our website, in our shelter's lobby,

and in the vehicles of our animal control officers. Our surgical and other rescue partners will also assist us with advertising the license plates and the availability of grant funds with the local media, at their facilities and through social media.