

Grant ID: 1882

Title of Proposal: Community Cats
Agency Type: Non-Profit
Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00
Check Payable To: First Coast No More Homeless Pets

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: First Coast No More Homeless Pets
Website Address: www.fcnmhp.org
Person Submitting Proposal: Barbara Barrett
Position: Major Gifts and Grants Manager
Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: bbarrett@fcnmp.org
Agency Head: Rob Levine
Agency Head Email: rlevine@fcnmp.org
Organization Business Address: 6817 Norwood Avenue
City: Jacksonville
State: Florida
Zip: 32208
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 904-520-7901
Fax: 904-338-0819
Cell:

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 06/05/2002
Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 10/01/18 **End:** 09/30/19
Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$9,061,028.00
Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$9,215,509.00
Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 96 Part Time: 12
Number of Active Volunteers: 1139
Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 241.00
How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Previous recipient
Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):
Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 2007,2009, 2011, 2014, 2016, 2018 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2013

| Grant # | Proposal Year | Proposal Title | Status |
|---------|---------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 115 | 2009 | Trap-Neuter-Release Surgery Fund | Funded |
| 215 | 2011 | Pit Bull/Feral Cat Spay & Neuter Programs | Funded |
| 345 | 2013 | Fix a Kitty Litter | Denied (not completed) |
| 1395 | 2014 | Fix a Kitty Litter | Funded |
| 1615 | 2007 | | Funded |
| 1633 | 2016 | The Big Fix | Funded |
| 1753 | 2018 | Community Cats | Funded |
| 1882 | 2020 | Community Cats | 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 |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Emilie Johnson | Member | (847) 431-1016 | Manager, Client Services, Beeline Company |
| Joe Strasser | Member | 904-396-9077 | Retired Businessman |
| Kelly Overby | President | (904) 370-0816 | Senior VP, Bank of America |
| Lauren Rautenkranz | Member | (561) 252-8795 | Meteorologist, First Coast News (ABC/NBC Affiliate) |
| Lisa Crowley | Vice President | (845) 661-0480 | VP JP Morgan Chase |
| Martin Rees | Treasurer | 904-619-3939 | Financial Analyst |
| Mary Ashley | Member | 904-230-0092 | Community Volunteer |
| Rene Kurzius | Member | (904) 619-6919 | Community Volunteer |
| Teresa Arnold-Simmons | Secretary | 904-253-5757 | Attorney |

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

0 cats and 0 dogs were admitted.

0 cats and 0 dogs were adopted.

0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

0 cats and 0 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?

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.

The mission of First Coast No More Homeless Pets is to make veterinary care affordable and accessible to all as we save lives by keeping dogs and cats in homes and out of shelters, provide low cost spay/neuter services with emphasis on feral/community cats, and deliver a broad range of related programs and services. Our combination of aggressive spay/neuter efforts and pet retention programs has resulted in significant improvement in animal welfare. In 2002, the year we were formed, more than 33,000 animals entered the Jacksonville shelters and in excess of 23,000 of those animals were killed. Last year, intake at Jacksonville shelters was down to 16,874 and only 716 animals were euthanized. Duval, Nassau and Clay counties have attained no-kill status (90% or better live release rate). FCNMHP is the only organization in Northeast Florida providing comprehensive services designed to reduce overpopulation. We target our efforts to provide surgeries for animals most likely to enter the shelters or least likely to leave alive—namely large dogs, feral cats, pets owned by low-income residents, and pets from zip codes with high surrender rates. FCNMHP worked with the City of Jacksonville to establish Feral Freedom, a trap-neuter-return program for feral cats entering the shelter. This was the first program in the nation to eliminate the standard protocol of euthanizing feral cats in shelters and has now been adopted by communities across the country. Last year we performed more than 21,000 surgeries in our clinic, which is one of the largest spay/neuter clinics in the country. Our low-cost clinic and state-of-the art veterinary hospital—both located in low-income neighborhoods in Jacksonville—are open to the public seven days a week, providing high quality care at affordable prices. We have a range of payment plans and charitable funds that allow us to provide services to folks with tight budgets and critical care to strays and pets whose owners cannot afford the care. We have a board member funded program that will pay for medical care for strays when the finder agrees to adopt or rehome the stray. We also operate a pet food bank, run entirely by volunteers with donated food, which serves as another method of keeping families and their pets together. To date,

we have distributed more than 2 million pounds of food to low-income pet owners. Our spay/neuter programs are overseen by our Head of Surgery, Brienne LeMay, DVM, and our Chief Operating Officer, Jennifer Barker. We offer surgeries six days a week and easily have the capacity to handle the additional surgeries this grant would cover. We track all surgeries and statistics and will be able to document our success. We have an active Development and Public Relations Department to advertise the program by way of media releases, newsletter, flyers, social media and PSA's, as well as a Volunteer Manager who works with many of the trappers.

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?

Last year we performed 21,444 spay/neuter surgeries at a total cost of \$1,544,144. Of these, 9,427 were paid for, either by individuals or rescue groups. The City of Jacksonville allocates part of the pet license fees to pay for surgeries for pets owned by low-income residents, and, for so long as the money lasts, for cats residing in Duval County. 6,654 animals were served under this program. Grants, either to FCNMHP, or to shelters in other counties, covered additional 1,521 surgeries. The remainder of the 4,133 surgeries, costing \$143,955, came from our funds (the majority of which were for subsidized feral surgeries or Feral Freedom). The primary focus for our surgeries is feral or community cats. Last year, we sterilized 7,846 community cats, performing this critical surgery on as many as 774 cats in one month. Research suggests that if we can reach 9,501 (one for each 100 in human population) spay/neuter surgeries of feral cats each year in Duval County, and sustain it, we will be able to humanely control the feral cat population over the long term. This year we will receive \$200,000 from the City of Jacksonville which will cover 4,545 feral cat surgeries. We expect this grant to last approximately 6 months. The additional 625 surgeries from Florida Animal Friend, when added to City funding, will help reach a total of 5170 surgeries. In addition, one of our donors has started a matching fund, Rosie's Fund, to help pay for additional surgeries. We will heavily promote this fund and seek additional funding to try to attain our 9,501 goal. These funds are needed because the community impact is directly related to funding. We know that if we can offer free surgeries throughout the year, our surgery numbers will increase because our many volunteer trappers will be encouraged to trap more cats, thereby alleviating the extreme pressure on shelters when kitten season is in full swing.

Target Population

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.): | Duval County |
| Total human population in target area: | 950,181 |
| Percent of residents living below poverty in target area: | 14.5 |
| Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3): | 287934 |
| Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0): | 237546 |
| Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0): | 158364 |
| Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known) | 3885 |
| Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known) | 4089 |
| Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known) | 236 |
| Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known) | 319 |
| Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. We do not believe it is significantly different. | |
| Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: Clearly, the community cat population is a most substantial source of overpopulation as evidenced by the fact that shelter cat admissions soared at the county shelter during kitten season. For example, in February of 2019, 114 cats were admitted; by June the number had almost quadrupled to 413, of which 328 were kittens. The other source of admissions is large dogs. | |
| 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? We operate one of the largest spay/neuter facilities in the country, capable of performing up to 50,000 surgeries each year. However, without the ability to provide free surgeries, especially for targeted populations such as community or feral cats, the cost is always a limitation on the number of surgeries we are asked to perform. Surgeries increase dramatically when we have funding provide surgeries at no cost. | |
| 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 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 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.

Duval County, FL, which is 762 square miles.

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

Cats brought in by Duval County residents.

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

Primarily urban, consisting mainly of commercial and residential uses.

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area : 287934

Estimated number that are currently sterilized: 70000

Projected reduction after utilizing the grant: 625

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

Generally speaking, the persons bringing in the cats for sterilization are either caring for the colony or acting on behalf of someone caring for the colony. When volunteers trap cats for others, they frequently talk to the person contacting them about caring for the animals.

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

Yes

Please explain what is allowed:

The Jacksonville City Ordinances allow for Community Cat Management Initiatives, requiring that managed colonies be on the property of the caregiver or with permission of the property owner, that the cats are sterilized, vaccinated and ear-tipped, and that the manager provide nutrition and medical care.

(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:

Jacksonville Animal Care and Protective Services, Jacksonville Humane Society, and many individual trappers.

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

When the cats are negatively impacting endangered species, we recommend moving the source of food, or, as a last resort, removing the cats.

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

We have employees who are experienced in mediating disputes.

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.

Objectives

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

Our immediate objective for these funds is to spay or neuter 625 feral cats.

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

We know that if we can offer free surgeries throughout the year, our surgery numbers increase. We will use this grant plus the City funding plus additional grant and donor funding as the base for our goal to ultimately perform more than 9,000 feral cat surgeries.

Methods

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

This will cover community cats brought in by Duval County residents.

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

We will promote this on Facebook and across our other social media platforms where we have more than 37,000 passionate followers. We will post information on our website and in email blasts as well as sending out press releases.

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

We have volunteers who can help with transportation and help breakdown other barriers.

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.

Generally speaking, the clients transport their own trapped ferals unless they make arrangements with friends or volunteers. We make it very clear that the cats must remain in the traps at all times. We transport feral cats brought to us from the shelter back to their home territories after surgery. We have a van that we use for these purposes operated by a trained cat trapper.

Veterinary Services

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

We have full and part-time veterinary surgeons on staff who perform the surgeries.

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

Veterinary Practices

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="\$40.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$40.00"/> |
| Range for Female Cats | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$40.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$40.00"/> |
| Range for Male Dogs | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> |
| Range for Female Dogs | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> |

Please check each item below to indicate additional services offered at the time of surgery, whether the client is required to pay for them, and if so what the fee is. For example, if an examination is required for surgery but is not charged to the client it would be marked: Required 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 type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes |
| Pain 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="\$10.00"/> |
| Parasite Medication | <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"/> |
| HW Testing | <input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes |
| Feline Leuk/FIV | <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="\$25.00"/> |
| 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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input 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 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 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:

It is up to the trappers bringing in the cats if they want to pay the fees for the optional services. Generally speaking, the optional services are not requested.

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 |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cats Angels | This is a local cat rescue group that frequently brings in trapped ferals 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.

There are many community members willing to care for colonies of community cats by feeding them and making sure that they have been sterilized. However, for many, the cost of surgery for a colony is prohibitive, so if we are going to be successful in dealing with the feral cat population (and reduce kitten admissions to the shelter), it is essential that we be able to offer as many free surgeries as possible for this population.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 625 **Dogs:** 0

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$40.00

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

This cost covers the exam, surgery, rabies vaccination and ear-tipping. Any other costs, such as microchipping, etc., must be paid by the trapper or person bringing in the cat.

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

We will receive \$200,000 from the City of Jacksonville this year for surgeries of community cats. This will cover 4,545 surgeries and last approximately 6 months. We will also seek additional grants. One of our donors has established Rosie's Fund for feral cat surgeries and she, along with two other donors, have established a matching fund that we will heavily promote to raise fund for these surgeries.

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

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Timeline

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

Projected start date: 08/09/20/ **Projected end date:** 09/22/20

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.**

We expect to receive continuing grants from the City of Jacksonville for funding this program. We will continue our grant and fundraising programs throughout the year.

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 will send a media release to our media database announcing the grant support and promoting the license plate. We include promotional links on our website and Facebook pages. Literature will be distributed at our public events and our two clinics where we annually see approximately 90,000 pets and the people who love them.