

Grant ID: 1907

Title of Proposal: Fix North Central Florida's At-Risk Pets**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00**Check Payable To:** Humane Society of North Central Florida

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Humane Society of North Central Florida**Website Address:** 4205 NW 6th Street**Person Submitting Proposal:** Margot DeConna**Position:** Director of Development**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** margot@humanesocietyncfl.org**Agency Head:** Heather Thomas**Agency Head Email:** heather@humanesocietyncfl.org**Organization Business Address:** 4205 NW 6th Street**City:** Gainesville**State:** FL**Zip:** 32609**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 352-415-2460**Fax:** 352-415-2461**Cell:** 954-240-9819

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 01/01/1980**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/19 **End:** 12/31/19**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$2,523,363.28**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$2,245,243.96**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 30 Part Time: 24**Number of Active Volunteers:** 1800**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 686.50**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** We are a previous grant recipient.**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2018, 2016 Year(s) denied/incomplete:**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1907	2020	Fix North Central Florida's At-Risk 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
Amber Sullivan	Vice President	352-373-5855	Freelance Writer and Marketing Consultant
Angela Foote	Director	352-373-5855	Realtor
Anna Lovato	President	352-373-5855	Medical Administrator
Carl Schwait	Director	352-373-5855	Retired Attorney
Cherie Fine	Director	352-373-5855	Attorney
Jessica Miller	Director	352-373-5855	Personal Assistant
Jessie Stanley	Director	352-373-5855	Veterinarian
Martha Kern	Director	352-373-5855	Insurance Agent
Naima Cortes-Stoneberger	Secretary	352-373-5855	Million Cat Challenge Program Manager

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

1506 cats and 1350 dogs were admitted.

1305 cats and 1220 dogs were adopted.

46 cats and 32 dogs were euthanized.

2552 cats and 2398 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

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

The Humane Society of North Central Florida (HSNCF), formerly the Alachua County Humane Society, is focused on ending euthanasia in Alachua County and in our surrounding counties. The organization shelters animals transferred from Alachua County Animal Services (the county's open admission shelter) and shelters in 12 surrounding counties with a focus on treatable animals slated for euthanasia (such as heartworm positive dogs and underage kittens). HSNCF understands that adoptions alone will not end euthanasia and therefore manages Operation Petsnip, our community's only low-cost, high-volume spay/neuter clinic. We also work closely with Operation Catnip to spay and neuter community/feral cats. As the lead agency for Maddie's Pet Rescue Partnership of Alachua County for the past ten years, HSNCF recognizes the importance of and is accustomed to accurate accounting of program statistics. HSNCF's Operation Petsnip spay/neuter clinic will perform all of the surgeries for this program. Operation Petsnip has performed over 40,000 sterilizations in our community (nearly 5,000 last year) and has the capacity to perform substantially more. In 2018-2019, the Humane Society renovated and expanded our spay/neuter clinic to double our capacity to serve our region's neediest pets. The Humane Society employs two highly-trained veterinary surgeons and the entire Operation Petsnip clinic team are ASPCA/Humane Alliance trained to provide high-volume, high-quality spay/neuter services.

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?

The Humane Society of North Central Florida's sterilization program is targeted at the animals in our foster care/adoption program that are rescued from Alachua County Animal Services or one of twelve other surrounding county shelters. Approximately 95% of these animals are unsterilized when they come into our program. Our current funding allows for all adoptable pets to be sterilized at our clinic. Operation Petsnip is the only low-cost spay/neuter provider within 40 miles and provides thousands of low-cost sterilization surgeries to owned pets each year. Unfortunately, the need for sterilization surgeries is greatest among those who cannot afford to pay, those who are spay/neuter resistant in our community or those who cannot afford to travel into Alachua County to acquire these services. In order to provide critical spay/neuter surgeries that will help lower euthanasia rates across our region, we must provide outreach and resources to low-income and spay/neuter-resistant members of our community who cannot afford available low-cost services or who may not be persuaded to sterilize their pet without transportation assistance and/or providing the service free of charge.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):	Alachua and Surrounding Counties
Total human population in target area:	507,971
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	18.88
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	153931
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	126993
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	84662
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1532
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	2239
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	107
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	307
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. As a Maddie's Adoption Project community, Alachua County's rescue partners have invested significant resources in data tracking, analysis, reporting and accountability. We believe that the figures shown above are an extremely accurate reflection of our target area animal population.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: Our research indicates that the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in Alachua & surrounding counties are free-roaming cats, pit bulls and pit mixes.	
What kinds of spay/neuter services are currently available in the target area and in what ways are these resources currently insufficient to meet community needs? Private practice veterinarians in Alachua County charge market rates for sterilization surgery (ranging from \$120 up to several hundred dollars per pet) and are available to serve middle to high income, motivated pet owners. The Humane Society of North Central Florida's Operation PetSnip program offers prices of \$60 for cats and \$110 for dog sterilization. In our less populous surrounding counties, there are very few private veterinarians to serve the many resident pet owners and there are no high-volume, low-cost spay/neuter clinics available to residents of these counties without traveling to Alachua County for this service. While each of these resources is an important piece in our region's plan to eliminate pet overpopulation, there is a significant service gap for very low income pet owners, for those who are resistant to the idea of pet sterilization and to pet owners living in one of our surrounding counties who cannot get to Gainesville to have their pets sterilized at our clinic. For the neediest of our region's residents, even \$60 or \$110 is an unmanageable cost, while free surgery and/or transportation may be the only practical incentive for pet owners who are resistant to spay/neuter education.	
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 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?

Yes

Please explain what is allowed:

N/A

(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)?

Our objective for the requested funds is to provide free sterilization surgery for at least 370 dogs/cats belonging to very low-income residents or to spay/neuter resistant pet owners by August 2021.

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

Our objective for the requested funds will increase spay/neuter surgeries by a minimum of 370 surgeries above 2019-2020 levels for Alachua and surrounding counties. It will directly address pet owners who would not otherwise have their pets sterilized due to severe economic need, lack of transportation or educational/cultural attitudes.

Methods

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

Low Income: We will target residents of Alachua and surrounding counties whose household income is at or below 150% of the 2020 federal poverty level. For example, a family of four earning \$39,300 or less would be eligible for free spay/neuter assistance under these guidelines. For documentation of eligibility we will accept current Medicaid, Food Stamp or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) cards or a 2018/2019 federal income tax return. Documentation of participation in other low-income programs such as Head Start or Community Action Programming will also qualify. **Lack of Transportation and Spay/Neuter Resistant Populations:** We will also conduct special outreach for pet owners without adequate transportation as well as those who are determined to be culturally resistant to pet sterilization. Staff will work with our county municipal shelter partners to identify neighborhoods or individuals with high rates of impounds or known pet overpopulation issues. Selection factors will be documented in written notes for each recipient under the Resistant Populations criteria.

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

The Humane Society of North Central Florida receives daily requests for free spay/neuter services from pet owners bringing in animals to surrender and from routine phone/walk-in traffic. We anticipate that these requests will increase once we announce the availability of free surgeries through this project. We will also advertise our program through community flyers, tabling, and outreach to organizations serving our target population. Furthermore, HSNCF has a substantial social media following and all services will be advertised through our monthly e-newsletter and social media outlets. Finally, HSNCF will employ its traditional outreach efforts including: classified advertising in local print and online media, PSAs and press releases, and public speaking opportunities at community and service club meetings. The Humane Society of North Central Florida possesses the strongest name and brand recognition among animal welfare agencies in our community. More calls for help with animal issues come to our phone lines than any other non-governmental agency. HSNCF is uniquely positioned to deliver solutions for animal welfare issues such as spay/neuter.

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

Transportation: In 2019, the Humane Society of North Central Florida launched a transportation program for pet owners without transportation to our clinic in Gainesville. Any pet owner who cannot transport their pet due to a lack of resources will have the option to sign up for a transport slot. Through this program, we provide pick-up and return of pets along with safe, reliable containment for the pets in our vehicle. **Illiteracy:** Because our outreach model relies heavily on personal contact and referrals from community partners, we do not anticipate that illiteracy will be a significant

barrier to full use of the program. Cultural hurdles: We will work to ensure that our staff and outreach volunteers reflect the cultural diversity of our region. All written program materials will be available in both English and Spanish, and a translation volunteer will be available for Spanish speaking pet owners.

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 only involves transportation of animals on an as-needed basis. For those requesting transportation assistance, a member of our pre-surgical team and one of our trained animal care staff will use the Humane Society's animal transport van to transport dogs and cats in secure containment kennels. Our personnel are trained in animal handling and covered by our organization's liability and workers compensation insurance policies. Pet owners requesting transportation will sign a release form prior to pick-up of their pet along with all other pre-surgical documents and release forms.

Veterinary Services

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

The Humane Society of North Central Florida operates our community's local ASPCA/Humane Alliance model community spay/neuter clinic, Operation PetSnip. Operation PetSnip's team of highly skilled veterinarians and technicians will perform all surgeries for this project.

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	FL	32609-2810	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="\$48.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$48.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$48.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$48.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$88.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$88.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$88.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$88.00"/>

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

Microchip Required Optional Not Available No Yes

Other Required Optional Not Available No Yes

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

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

Rabies vaccinations are required, if due. The cost to the client is \$20.00. Medication for tapeworms, hook/round worms and fleas are also available to the client for a nominal fee. E-collars are provided to all clients, free of charge.

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
Alachua County Animal Services	Alachua County Animal Services (ACAS) staff and director have an ongoing partnership with the Humane Society of North Central Florida to promote HSNCF's programs and humane education efforts in the community. ACAS will also help HSNCF's outreach efforts by providing data on the zip codes and neighborhoods where they frequently encounter stray or unaltered animals.
Alachua County Board of County Commissioners	The Board of County Commissioners are dedicated to reducing and ending animal euthanasia in Alachua County. Alachua County Commissioner, Robert Hutchinson, actively serves on several animal welfare Boards and Foundations, embracing pet sterilization as the necessary and positive action to reduce pet overpopulation.
Fix Them All	Fix Them All and the Humane Society of North Central Florida work together to help target animals who may otherwise end up at the county shelter without the help of free spay/neuter surgeries.
Haile's Angels Pet Rescue	Haile's Angels Pet Rescue and the Humane Society of North Central Florida work together to help target animals who may otherwise end up at the county shelter without the help of free spay/neuter surgeries.
Levy County Animal Services	Levy County Animal Services staff and director have an ongoing partnership with the Humane Society of North Central Florida to promote HSNCF's programs and humane education efforts in the community. Levy County will also help HSNCF's outreach efforts by providing data on the zip codes and neighborhoods where they frequently encounter stray or unaltered animals.
Operation Catnip	Operation Catnip and the Humane Society of North Central Florida work together to help target animals who may otherwise end up at the county shelter without the help of free spay/neuter surgeries.
Puppy Hill Farm Animal Rescue	Puppy Hill Farm Animal Rescue and the Humane Society of North Central Florida work together to help target animals who may otherwise end up at the county shelter without the help of free spay/neuter surgeries.

Other Information

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

The Humane Society of North Central Florida will reach out to low income and spay/neuter resistant pet owners to offer free sterilizations for dogs and cats through Operation PetSnip. HSNCF and our community partners believe that targeting very low income and spay/neuter resistant pet owners is the key to increasing pet sterilization above baseline numbers, as these are the pet owners least likely to ever sterilize their cats and dogs. By providing a special fund for free spay/neuter surgery and facilitating participation through outreach, transport and other support, this project will directly address the most entrenched barriers in our community: poverty and cultural resistance. At an average cost of only \$68 per

surgery, this project is an excellent investment of Florida Animal Friend funding with huge potential to keep the most at-risk pets out of our region's municipal shelters.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 200 **Dogs:** 175

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$67.00

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

Grant funds will be used specifically for the costs of spay/neuter surgery for dogs and cats belonging to low-income or spay/neuter resistant pet owners. The Humane Society of North Central Florida will cover the costs of required rabies vaccines using locally raised funds. Outreach will be conducted by our committed corps of volunteers, including students from the University of Florida and by our community partners with boots on the ground in low-income communities and neighborhoods. We will also solicit in-kind donations of printing & advertising from corporate partners.

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

Grant funds will be used specifically for the costs of spay/neuter surgery for dogs and cats belonging to low-income or spay/neuter resistant pet owners. The cost of outreach, including printing and staff time will be absorbed by our ongoing Public Education and Outreach programs. We will also solicit cash as well as in-kind donations from the community, businesses and corporate partners. Targeted fundraising efforts will be engaged by the Director of Development on staff including the use of volunteers and interns.

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: 08/01/20/ **Projected end date:** 07/31/21

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 are excited about the potential impact of this project on intake and euthanasia statistics from across the North Central Florida and we believe our region will share this excitement as they see euthanasia rates continue to decline due to the lifesaving results of spay/neuter. We plan to leverage this community enthusiasm to create a permanent fund where donors can make directed gifts. We will continue to use the statistical outcomes of the project period to demonstrate impact and effectiveness and make the case for continued support from our major donors and grant makers.

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.**

The Humane Society of North Central Florida is grateful for the investment Florida Animal Friend, Inc. is making on behalf of our state's pets. We will acknowledge the Florida Animal Friend grant program through a dedicated press release, on social media, and on our website. Furthermore, we will promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate through a permanent display in our adoption center, through links on our website and Facebook page, and in a printed advertisement in our Woofstock event program booklet each Fall.