

Grant ID: 1919

Title of Proposal: Be a P.A.L. (Prevent A Litter)**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00**Check Payable To:** North Florida PAWS, Inc.

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: North Florida People for Animal Welfare Society, Inc. dba North Florida PAWS, Inc.**Website Address:****Person Submitting Proposal:** Katie Rooney**Position:** President**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** NorthFloridaPAWS@windstream.net**Agency Head:** Katie Rooney**Agency Head Email:** NorthFloridaPAWS@windstream.net**Organization Business Address:** P. O. BOX 9 (1291 Florida St.)**City:** Jennings**State:** Florida**Zip:** 32053-0009**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 386-938-4092**Fax:****Cell:** 386-855-3892

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 02/14/2000**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/19 **End:** 12/31/19**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$10,592.00**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$20,026.00**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 0 Part Time: 0**Number of Active Volunteers:** 9**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 64.00**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** We have been supporters of FAF since its inception and receive e-mail reminders.**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 0

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
136	2010	Pups & Kits Snip	Funded
322	2012	PET AID Spay Subsidy	Funded
1430	2014	Pit Bulls & Community Cats In Need	Funded
Auto-Generated (Previous Applications): 1604	2006		Funded
1605	2008		Funded
1662	2016	Fixin' Pitties and Kitties	Funded
1809	2018	SNIPPIN' Dogs & Cats (Spay Neuter Initiative for Pets and People In Need)	Funded
1919	2020	Be a P.A.L. (Prevent A Litter)	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
Katie Rooney	President/Director	386-938-5051	Retired Spay/Neuter Clinic Mgr. & HR Mgr.
Lori Johnson	Treasurer	386-855-2812	ACO and Accountant
Nichole Paladino	Vice President	386-855-2439	Retired Animal Shelter Worker

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

8 cats and 14 dogs were admitted.

8 cats and 13 dogs were adopted.

0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

8 cats and 14 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:

n/a

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.

North Florida PAWS was incorporated in 2000 and opened a low-cost spay/neuter clinic in 2008. 14,038 surgeries and over 200 low-cost Vaccination Clinics were accomplished in the following nine years. After closing the clinic, North Florida PAWS established a partnership with North Florida Animal Rescue & Veterinary Clinic in Wellborn (Suwannee County) for low-cost surgeries for our shelter pets, grant recipients, and low-income pet owners we assist. KATIE ROONEY has been the Executive Director for 20 years and Clinic Manager for 9 years. Her background includes a BS in Sociology, 23 years experience as a Human Resources Manager with the Veterans Administration Hospital System, and 27 years as a professional Dog Trainer and Behavior Consultant. LORI JOHNSON has served North Florida PAWS for ten years including as Assistant Clinic Manager and Veterinary assistant. She is a FACA-certified Animal Control Officer with almost two years experience, and an Accountant by prior occupation. NICHOLE PALADINO has vast experience caring for dogs and cats as a paid Animal Shelter Worker as well as a volunteer and dog foster.

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?

Through donations and fundraising activities, we are able to assist very low income pet owners and feral cat colony caretakers obtain spay/neuter services and basic veterinary care. In 2019, we spent \$9,199.00 on 183 spay/neuter surgeries with associated rabies vaccinations. With this grant, we anticipate supporting at least 550 spay/neuter surgeries in addition to at least 150-200 locally-funded surgeries during 2020.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):

Hamilton, Madison, Suwannee and Columbia counties

Total human population in target area:	146,435
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	24.8
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	44375
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	36609
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	24406
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	N/A
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	N/A
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	N/A
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	N/A
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.	
We believe the estimated number of pet dogs and cats in the target area is higher than the national average because this highly rural, poor region in North Central Florida ranks very low in per capita income (\$18,414), high poverty level (24.8%), and high school dropout rate (21.3%). Because of these disadvantages and limited sheltering resources in the identified counties, there are significantly more intact dogs and cats reproducing.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:	
Large dogs are unfortunately popular among the poorer members of our community and constitute a higher-than-usual percentage of the dog overpopulation. There is also an unusually high number of owned and community cats living outdoors. Most dogs are kept outdoors as well.	
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?	
North Florida Animal Rescue and Veterinary Clinic in Wellborn, Suwannee County, provides excellent low-cost spay/neuter surgeries without residency restrictions. One vet operates a small low-cost clinic in Live Oak, Suwannee County. The Lake City/Columbia County Animal Shelter employs a retired veterinarian to perform spay/neuters for the their animals and residents of Columbia County. There are a large majority of low-income pet owners in the identified 4-county area who need monetary assistance which the named organizations cannot fully meet alone.	
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 checked="" 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.

The majority of feral and community cats reside on large parcels within the named counties totaling 2,725 square miles (Hamilton, Madison, Suwannee and Columbia counties).

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

Cat caretakers must be in receipt of income-based government assistance in the form of Food Stamps, Medicaid, or SSI (Supplemental Security Income) and have a total family income that does not exceed 150% of Federal poverty guidelines. Exceptions to proof of government assistance may be made on a case-by-case basis where there are a significant number of intact cats in a maintained colony where the family income is low but not eligible for food stamps, medicaid, or SSI.

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

The targeted area is primarily rural and agricultural.

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area : 25000

Estimated number that are currently sterilized: 1000

Projected reduction after utilizing the grant: 250

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

To qualify individuals participating must be currently caring for the cats and commit to continuing their care. We have found that TNR caretakers we have helped in the past have continued to care for cats and ask for our help sterilizing any new cats who have joined the colony or been dropped off. North Florida PAWS remains available to provide support.

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:**

Hamilton Humane Society, Suwannee Valley Humane Society, Madison County Animal Control, North Florida Animal Rescue, Suwannee County Animal Control, Jasper City Animal Control.

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

Owners/caretakers can call upon North Florida PAWS if there is a concern wildlife is being impacted, particularly due too a lack of food which we can help supply.

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

Owners/caretakers generally live on large parcels of property which significantly reduces the potential for neighbor disputes. We are always available to help with disputes if they were to occur.

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.**

All individuals and groups managing a feral cat colony and caring for community cats can receive help with trapping and transport as well as surgery and rabies vaccinations. North Florida PAWS has a supply of traps to loan and experienced volunteers.

Objectives

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

Based on an average cost of \$45 for each surgery from grant funds, we plan to spay/neuter a minimum of 550 dogs and cats, giving priority to females, large dogs and community cats. If the ratio of dogs to cats and females to males is higher than estimated, North Florida PAWS will make up the difference in increased costs to assure our goal is met as we have done in the past.

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

The eligible owners/caretakers will be those who cannot afford even the reduced costs of the non-profit spay/neuter clinics. The low \$10 co-pay for surgery and help with transportation will assure a minimum of 550 more dogs and cats will be sterilized.

Methods

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

Owners/caretakers must be in receipt of current government assistance not exceeding a maximum of 150% of the Federal poverty levels via Food Stamps, Medicaid, or SSI (Supplemental Security Income). An adult's name must match on a photo ID and the qualifying documentation. Dependent children in receipt of government assistance directly do not qualify.

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

We continually receive unsolicited requests from eligible persons and have a waiting list. We have great success through posting flyers (English and Spanish) in places frequented by low-income families (local health departments, libraries, Head Start, etc.). The local radio stations and newspapers always support our Press Releases and Public Service Announcements. We effectively use social media including our popular Facebook page with the Hamilton Humane Society. Our animal welfare partners in the region help us spread the word about our spay/neuter funding and other events such as our \$6 Rabies Clinic. Fortunately we and North Florida Animal Rescue/Vet Clinic are well known in our region.

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

Our volunteers are experienced working with our diverse cultures and are available to help owners/caretakers with transportation, completing forms, providing traps, and any other problems which 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.

Clients who do not have a reliable vehicle can request transport assistance. Each approved volunteer transporter must be experienced with animal handling, use their personal vehicle, provide proof of current vehicle and health insurance, and sign a liability release form. All transported animals must be safely confined in a crate or trap of which North Florida PAWS has a large supply. Volunteers who are not experienced in transporting animals must ride with experienced transporters until they have received sufficient on-the-job training.

Veterinary Services

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

Centrally located in our region in Suwannee County, North Florida Animal Rescue & Veterinary Clinic will perform the spay/neuter surgeries at the agreed fees shown below. They are a 501(c)(3) full-service low-cost clinic and can handle all medical and surgical needs including emergencies.

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

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
North Florida Animal Rescue & Vet Clinic	16800 CR 137	Wellborn	FL	32094	386-963-1354	<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="\$10.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$30.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$10.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$10.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$60.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$10.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$60.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$70.00"/>

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="\$5.00"/>
Other Vaccination if Due	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
Pain Medication	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Parasite Medication	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$12.00"/>
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="\$15.00"/>
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="\$18.00"/>
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 checked="" 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:

North Florida Animal Rescue has generously agreed to waive the fees for pain medication and absorb those costs for grant recipients. North Florida PAWS will maintain a fund from two generous donors to cover the \$10 co-payments and/or the \$5 rabies vaccination for the most indigent pet owners and those owners and feral caretakers with enough pets to make that total too difficult to manage.

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
98.1 "Big 98" Radio Station in Suwannee County	This radio station will carry public service announcements and have representatives guest on the local morning show "Berns for Breakfast" to publicize the program.
City of Jasper Town Manager & Animal Control Officer	Jasper is the County Seat and most dense residential area. We have an excellent working relationship with these officials and they will fully support the program.
Hamilton County Sheriff's Department	Unfortunately Hamilton County does not provide animal services or shelter so animal control falls to the County Sheriff. We work with the Sheriff's department to provide what services we can to the citizens. The deputies and staff support the work of North Florida PAWS and the Hamilton Humane Society and will promote the program to its citizens.
Hamilton Humane Society, Inc.	We have had a very close relationship with the Hamilton Humane Society in Hamilton County since its incorporation in 2012. Spay/Neuter support for its citizens is one of their highest priority program.
Madison County Animal Services	We have a long-time relationship with this County Animal Services department and they will fully advertise and promote this program to their citizens.
Radio Station 107.5 in Hamilton County	This local talk and news radio station has supported us and the Hamilton Humane Society for years. They will provide regular public service announcements and have representatives guest on the popular local show radio announcer Phil Jones.
Suwannee County Animal Shelter	We have a long-time relationship with this County shelter which is part of the Suwannee County Sheriff's Department. They will fully advertise and promote this program to their citizens.
Suwannee Democrat Newspaper	We have had continued support for Press Releases and Public Service Announcements from this regional newspaper which also publishes the Jasper News in Hamilton County.
Suwannee Valley Humane Society, Inc.	We have had a long-time relationship with this private, non-kill full-service animal shelter. They will advertise and fully promote this program to their visitors, adopters, members; at all events; and in their quarterly membership newsletter.

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

North Florida PAWS has over 13 years experience in this region supporting low-income pet owners and feral cat caretakers obtain subsidized spay/neuter surgeries for their pets. This includes 9 years directly operating a Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic in Jennings, Hamilton County. We have

an excellent understanding of our community and have established working relationships with many government officials, organizations, and individuals.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 300 **Dogs:** 250

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$46.00

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 vaccinations, which are almost always required, are only \$5.00 for grant clients. Pain medications will be provided at no cost to the grant or pet owners/caretakers by North Florida Animal Rescue & Veterinary Clinic. All administrative costs will be provided by North Florida PAWS. This includes printing, gas, postage and any other related expenses.

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

On a case-by-case basis North Florida PAWS will cover the costs of co-pays and rabies vaccinations for the most indigent owners through targeted spay/neuter fundraising activities and donations.

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

77%

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 plan to continue and increase our support to low-income pet owners and caretakers for feral and community cats with existing and additional fundraising activities, particularly through continuing collaborations with Hamilton Humane Society, North Florida Animal Rescue, Suwannee Valley Humane Society, and government Animal Control Agencies.

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.**

North Florida PAWS, along with collaborative partners, continually advertise and promote the FAF Spay/Neuter License Plates via publications, flyers, posters, displays at events, and every opportunity. All of our vehicles have the specialty license plates.