

Grant ID: 1972

**Title of Proposal:** Providing Spay/Neuter Services to Low Income Pet Owners**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$21,000.00**Check Payable To:** St. Francis Pet Care

## Application Information

## Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** St. Francis Pet Care**Website Address:** www.stfrancispetcare.org**Person Submitting Proposal:** Natalie Isaza**Position:** board member**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** isazan@bellsouth.net**Agency Head:** Dale Kaplan-Stein**Agency Head Email:** oaksdks@gmail.com**Organization Business Address:** 104 SE 4th Place**City:** Gainesville**State:** Gainesville**Zip:** 32601**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 352-372-4959**Fax:****Cell:** 352-871-2843

## Agency Details

**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 01/01/2010**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/20 **End:** 12/31/20**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$194,444.87**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$151,543.83**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 2 Part Time: 5**Number of Active Volunteers:** 10**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 300.00**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** We have previously received funding from Florida Animal Friends**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2019 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 0**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
249	2011	SFHPCC Spay/Neuter Grant	Funded
1500	2015	St. Francis Pet Care FAF application	Funded
1864	2019	St. Francis Pet Care Application	Funded
1972	2021	Providing Spay/Neuter Services to Low Income Pet Owners	Funded

**Describe your Organization:****Services Provided**

- Open Admission Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter
- Foster Network
- Animal Control

**Organization Structure:**

- City, county, or tribal agency
- Private nonprofit agency
- TNR Group
- Rescue Group

Spay/Neuter Services Other Other **List your current board of directors:**

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation
Amanda Ardente	Member	919-389-6750	Veterinarian
Chris Machen	Vice President	352-514-3187	Retired Nurse
Dale Kaplan-Stein	President	352-871-2843	Retired Veterinarian
Debbie Harris	Treasurer	352-256-0013	IT
Gordon Smok	Member	815-212-3769	Veterinary Instructor
JoAnne Lopez	Member	352-226-5825	Biological Scientist
Louise Anderson	Secretary	904-356-6023	Accountant
Natalie Isaza	Member	352-262-9887	Veterinarian
Patti Gordon	Member	352-215-6194	Veterinarian

**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.****93 cats and 120 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?**

No

**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?****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 St. Francis Pet Care Clinic was founded in 2007 to provide basic veterinary care for the pets of low income and homeless people in our community. In late 2020, we hired two veterinarians to help with our mission; because of the pandemic many of our volunteer veterinarians could no longer participate in the clinical aspect of our program. One of our veterinarians is the medical director and oversees the medical clinics as well as the second veterinarian. The second veterinarian was hired to perform HQHVSN services for the clinic. This veterinarian has extensive experience in this area, having previously completed an internship at the San Diego Humane Society and having worked for non-profit spay/neuter clinics in the past. We have also hired four part-time veterinary technicians to help with both the clinics as well as the spay/neuter aspect of our program. In 2019 we moved into a brand new building complete with a fully equipped surgical suite, with prep and animal holding areas. All surgeries will be performed at our clinic.

**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?**

We currently do not have designated funding for spay/neuter services. We charge our clients a nominal fee for these procedures, but many of our clients cannot afford even these reduced prices. Currently, we are using other sources of income to pay for these procedures, including donations from the public, and from other organizations like Amazon Smile, Facebook, and our local United Way. However, these funds are not necessarily reliable sources of income from year to year, and until we build up our revenue stream from charging nominal fees for our services, we will be unable to provide these procedures at no cost to our clients. We believe all pets deserve adequate veterinary care to keep them happy and healthy, and our clients struggle every day to provide for their pets. This funding from Florida Animal Friends would provide spay/neuter services as well as rabies vaccination at no cost to our clients.

## Target Population

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):</b>	Alachua County, Florida
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	269,043
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	18.4%
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	81529
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	67261
<b>Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	44841
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	1533
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	2229
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	91
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	254
<b>Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.</b> The statistics available for our local animal control are numbers from 2019, so there may be minor discrepancies with the 2020 data.	
<b>Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:</b> The most substantial sources of pet overpopulation are from animals in low income and under-resourced areas of our county, as well as from community cats.	
<b>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?</b> Our local humane society (Humane Society of North Central Florida) provides low cost spay/neuter services to the public. They currently serve outlying counties as well, including Levy and Gilchrist counties. There is also a well-established TNR program for feral and community cats, Operation Catnip, which provides spay/neuter services and vaccinations for community cats in Alachua County. Many clients tell us that they have difficulty securing appointments with the Humane Society due to the very large demand for spay/neuter. In many cases, it is also cost-prohibitive for our clients to obtain spay/neuter surgeries from local clinics and the humane society. Even though many have reduced fees, most of our clients cannot afford the surgery even if it is low cost. It is clear that spay/neuter services are in high demand in Alachua and surrounding counties.	
<b>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(s) of the spay/neuter project proposed for this grant:</b> <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)?**

The main objective of this grant is to provide spay/neuter services as well as rabies vaccinations for the pets of people living in under resourced areas of north central Florida. While most of our clients live in Alachua County, many live in more rural outlying counties with very little access to veterinary care for their pets. There is a particular need for spay/neuter services, as many communities do not have veterinarians, or if they do, the prices for these procedures are cost prohibitive for our clients. We hope to increase the number of bully breed and other large dogs we sterilize through our program with this grant, as those are the breeds that often end up in animal shelters due to over breeding, and they are traditionally the hardest animals to place into adoptive homes. Our overall goal is to keep animals out of the shelter and with their owners. Our clinic has been true to this mission for over 14 years, and has provided veterinary care to hundreds of animals that may not otherwise have been cared for since the clinic's inception in 2007. Spay/neuter services are a part of an overall pet wellness plan, and we have the expertise and knowledge to be successful in this endeavor. We hope to perform at least 25 sterilization surgeries per month over the next year at our downtown Gainesville clinic, with a total of 300 animals spayed and neutered during the timeline of this grant.

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

By recruiting pets from rural communities in neighboring counties, we will open our spay/neuter program to more people who truly need our services in our community. The most recent grant we received from Florida Animal Friends was difficult to complete because we were limited to Alachua County animals. There are a number of low cost spay/neuter clinics available in Alachua County, so by reaching out to surrounding counties we are confident we will be able to achieve our goal of 300 animals sterilized with this grant funding.

## Methods

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

The St. Francis Pet Care Clinic is a well established non-profit veterinary clinic in Gainesville, Florida that serves the pets of low income and homeless in our community. Although we no longer use income qualification criteria for admission to our clinic, we have a reputation in our community for providing high-quality care for underserved pet owners; we now provide services at low cost to any pet owner. Because of our clinic's limited hours and limited number of appointments per day, we have found that clients who can afford other veterinary care for their pet are unwilling to put up with the inconvenience of scheduling their pet to be seen by a veterinarian. We also have two outreach clinics associated with St. Francis Pet Care; one in a resource poor area in Gainesville (SWAG-Southwest Advocacy Group), and the other at Grace Marketplace, our one-stop center for homeless people, also in Gainesville. Many of the pets we sterilize come from these two outreach clinics.

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

We plan on advertising at SWAG's community center, as well as at Grace Marketplace. We also will place fliers at the local health department offices, advertise on local radio and TV with PSAs, and distribute fliers to the health departments and community centers of outlying counties.

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

Transportation has always been a big issue, as many of our clients do not have a way to bring their animals to the clinic, especially if they own a large dog. Our volunteers cannot transport animals in their personal vehicles due to liability concerns, but we do have a converted ambulance we use for our outreach clinics that can be used as a transport vehicle if necessary. Fortunately many of our clients have friends and neighbors who are also willing to help them if needed. Our clinic is also located very close to a regional bus station, so clients with small dogs and cats can transport their animals with them on the bus. It is also difficult explaining the importance of spay/neuter to someone from a different culture where it may not be as important as it is in our culture. We try to educate our clients regardless of background of the importance of spay/neuter in the overall

health of their pet. We also have volunteers who are fluent in Spanish that can explain the importance and health benefits of spay/neuter to the clients we see in our clinic, but it is more challenging to reach people in rural areas who may not be regular clients. We also require that pets be sterilized in order to receive low cost services at our clinic, and we have found that to be a big incentive for people who may not otherwise want their pet sterilized.

**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.**

We anticipate rarely using our ambulance as a transport vehicle, but if so it will be driven by a clinic employee (covered under our insurance policy) and animals will be secured in crates or in cages built in to the ambulance. We would likely. The employees we would utilize for this would be our veterinary technicians, and all have had extensive training in animal handling.

**Veterinary Services**

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

St. Francis Pet Care is a full service clinic with surgical facilities and veterinarians on staff who will perform all of the surgeries. On occasion we may need help from a private veterinarian who will come to the clinic and perform surgeries there.

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

**Veterinary Practices**

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Access Veterinary Services, LLC	9652 NW 161st St.	Alachua	Florida	32615	352-262-9887	<input type="checkbox"/>
St. Francis Pet Care	104 SE 4th Place	Gainesville	Florida	32601	352-372-4959	<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, which is required) and not for other items such as testing, licensing, and capital purchases. However, \$2 per animal of grant funds can be used for rabies vaccination.

	Amount Paid by Client	Amount Paid by Project	Total Amount
<b>Range for Male Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$55.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$55.00"/>
<b>Range for Female Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$55.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$55.00"/>
<b>Range for Male Dogs</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$85.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$85.00"/>
<b>Range for Female Dogs</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$85.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$85.00"/>

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?
<b>Examination</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Rabies Vaccination if Due</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Other Vaccination if Due</b>	<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"/>
<b>Pain Medication</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Parasite Medication</b>	<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"/>
<b>HW Testing</b>	<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"/>
<b>Feline Leuk/FIV</b>	<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="\$20.00"/>
<b>County License</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Ear tipping</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input 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 which is required and \$2 per animal for rabies vaccination.**

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

n/a

**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
Southwest Advocacy Group	This organization in a low income area of southwest Gainesville provides use of their community center for our outreach clinics. Their involvement will be to help identify pets in need of spay/neuter in their community, and relay that to our veterinarians or volunteers.

### Other Information

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

We will schedule our spay/neuter appointments when a new pet or client visits our clinic for a first visit or wellness exam. We will also provide a message on our answering machine, in both English and Spanish, with directions on how to schedule a spay/neuter appointment for non-clients. We will schedule the pet in the next available slot, preferably within a week of the request, and prioritize animals that may be pregnant or are otherwise vulnerable. We have hired a part-time office manager who will be responsible for scheduling appointments, with the assistance and input of the veterinarians and veterinary staff.

### Budget

**Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:**

**Cats:** 150 **Dogs:** 150

**Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000):** \$21,000.00

**Average cost/surgery projected:** \$70.00

**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 and other vaccines will be purchased by St. Francis Pet Care, as well as other vaccines, microchips, pain medication, parasiticides, and diagnostic tests. Pet owners will be able to request any other vaccines, treatments or testing they want for their pet and pay for it at the time of surgery. St. Francis Pet Care will cover the cost of Rabies vaccinations to all eligible animals 12 weeks and older, as well as pain medication to go home (if indicated) at no cost to the client.

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

We will use clinic revenue and grant funding from PetSmart Charities and the United Way to purchase other vaccines, diagnostic tests, parasiticides and microchips that may be requested by the owner.

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

95

/td>

**All projects must be completed within 12 months of receipt of funding, with the final report submitted no later than September 1 of the following year.**

**Projected start date:** 06/01/21/ **Projected end date:** 05/31/22

#### **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 hope to be able to generate revenue through our clinical services to help cover the cost of spay/neuter in the future. We also anticipate continued funding from private donors, local businesses, and the United Way. However, because we are a non-profit clinic providing free and reduced services to our clients, we will always need to seek grant funding or have our clients pay a portion for spay/neuter services.

### 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 plan to place fliers in our clinic advertising the FAF license plate, as well as putting the FAF logo with a link to information about the license plate on our clinic website. Our clinic vehicle also sports a spay/neuter license plate, and that vehicle is used in our outreach clinics at SWAG and Grace Marketplace.**

**Number of FAF specialty plates on vehicles of staff and/or volunteers:**

**Unknown**