

Grant ID: 1962

Title of Proposal: Targeted TNR for Better Neighborhoods**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00**Check Payable To:** University of Florida Foundation

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program**Website Address:** <https://sheltermedicine.vetmed.ufl.edu/>**Person Submitting Proposal:** Dr. Julie Levy**Position:** Professor of Shelter Medicine**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** levyjk@ufl.edu**Agency Head:** Dr. Cynda Crawford**Agency Head Email:** crawfordc@ufl.edu**Organization Business Address:** 2015 SW 16th Avenue**City:** Gainesville**State:** FL**Zip:** 32608**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 352-258-6658**Fax:** 352-392-6125**Cell:** 352-258-6658

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 01/01/1980**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 07/01/19 **End:** 06/30/20**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$1,155,464.00**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$597,890.00**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 5 Part Time: 3**Number of Active Volunteers:** 135**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 130.00**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** I was a founding member of the board of directors of FAF and developed the inaugural grant application procedures.**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
1862	2019	Targeted TNR for Better Neighborhoods	Funded
1962	2021	Targeted TNR for Better Neighborhoods	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
Anita Zucker	Chair	352-392-1691	not listed
David Christie	Treasurer	352-392-1691	n
Jon Pritchett	Vice Chair	352-392-1691	not listed
Karen Sprague	Vice President	352-392-1691	not listed
Susan Goffman	Secretary	352-392-1691	not listed
Thomas Mitchell	Executive Vice president	352-392-1691	not listed

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.

2566 cats and 75 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?

Except under very uncommon circumstances, our program does not perform adoptions. In the rare cases in which adoptions are performed, all animals are sterilized prior to adoption.

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.

The Shelter Medicine Program was founded in 2008. The feline spay/neuter program was founded by Dr. Levy, who is board-certified in veterinary internal medicine and shelter medicine. Dr. Levy has performed multiple studies of community cat management and served on the committee that developed national guidelines for spay/neuter standards of care. Dr. Levy leads a team of veterinarians and veterinary students who perform spay and neuter surgery at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine.

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 feline spay/neuter program has been supported by grants from Petsmart Charities, ASPCA, the Petco Foundation for many years. In recent years, national funders have decreased their focus on spay/neuter funding, and the COVID pandemic has reduced charitable giving overall. Funding support for our spay/neuter programs, especially for free-roaming animals, is more crucial than ever to avoid losing the momentum we've created in controlling reproduction and shelter intake of unwanted animals.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):	Alachua County
Total human population in target area:	269043
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	19%
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	81529
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	67261
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	44841

Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1068
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1640
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	87
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	145
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.	
Due to the emergency response to the COVID pandemic, the animal shelter reduced activity to essential services, and admitted only half of the usual number of animals. This left many cats without adoption and spay/neuter options, and likely breeding at high rates than other years.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:	
Cat overpopulation is believed to be primarily due to unowned stray and feral community cats. Each spring, kitten season overwhelms our local shelters and rescue groups, with a spike in intake in kittens found outdoors, many of them under-aged and without mothers. This uncontrolled cat reproduction creates nuisance and welfare concerns, even when they do not enter the shelter system. The primary source of dog overpopulation appears to be unintended reproduction of owned dogs and the relinquishment of juvenile and adolescent large-breed 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?	
During the early months of the COVID pandemic, spay/neuter clinics were closed altogether, and when they reopened in mid-2020, it was only at partial capacity. As of February 2021, we are facing the compounded effects of two successive cat breeding cycles in the face of diminished spay/neuter. This threatens to roll back many of the hard-won gains that years of aggressive spay/neuter programs have achieved. Other spay/neuter resources that are currently operating at diminished capacity include the humane society spay/neuter clinic and Operation Catnip. Although the humane society offers low-cost services, these are still out of reach for many residents, especially those that are caring for multiple animals. In addition, the humane society clinic is booked out several weeks and is unable to provide transport assistance for needy caregivers. Operation Catnip provides free spay/neuter services but is consistently over capacity and each month turns away many people who are requesting services.	
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:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input 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 boundaries are Alachua County, which is 969 square miles.

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

This project will target community cats identified by Alachua County Animal Services (ACAS) as needing attention. The Shelter Medicine Program collaborates with ACAS on shelter medicine consultation, adoption programs, and student volunteer service activities. In addition, the Shelter Medicine Program works with ACAS on specific community cat needs such as large colony interventions and removal of cats from sensitive wildlife areas.

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

ACAS predominantly requests assistance for cats located in urban and suburban areas because cats tend to congregate around inhabited areas where there is a regular food source. Cat numbers are prone to become large and to constitute a nuisance when they are fed in the absence of sterilization. Common examples include mobile home communities, strip malls, institutions, and businesses.

Estimated number of cats in the target colony area : 1000

Estimated number that are currently sterilized: 20

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.

The TNR program commonly encounters adoptable kittens and works with local shelters and rescue groups to place them in appropriate homes. That accounts for the projected immediate reduction of 250 cats in the target area. The remaining population reduces slowly as cats live out their lives. Cat trapping and return is always performed with the collaboration of local residents or other stakeholders to assure that the care have ongoing care. The Shelter Medicine Program provides free vaccines for l

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

Yes

Please explain what is allowed:

Alachua County municipal code Sec. 72.25. - Community cat management states the following: "Community cat management, in which the community cat is sterilized, ear-tipped, vaccinated against the threat of rabies, and returned to the original location, is the preferred response to a community cat. If these requirements are met, the community cat is exempted from licensing, stray, at large, abandonment, and possibly other provisions of this ordinance that apply to owned animals."

(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:

Alachua County Animal Services will identify target areas for the project to work in. A letter of support for this project from the shelter director is included.

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

The Shelter Medicine Program collaborated with Alachua County Animal Services and Alachua Audubon Society to develop the following policy: "Domestic cats will not be released or fed on public lands established and currently managed for the protection of native wildlife. The observation of cats in natural areas with significant conservation value can be reported to Alachua County Animal Services, which will initiate a process for site assessment and appropriate mitigation, if indicated."

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

Most nuisances are caused by intact cats, their noisy breeding, fighting, spraying behavior, and the heartbreak of seeing young kittens fighting to survive. Sterilization has an immediate and dramatic impact on these nuisance behaviors. In addition, project staff work with stakeholders at the target sites to identify and mitigate any conditions that attract cats and contribute to large and bothersome colonies.

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.

The regional scope of the community cat population outstrips the ability of any single agency or tactic to have a lasting impact. It is more strategic and effective to target limited resources on the sites of highest concern for community nuisance and cat welfare. Citizen reports of cat issues are received by Alachua County Animal Services, which can then triage them and assign the most critical ones to this project.

Objectives

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

The objective is to have a positive impact on the most troublesome cat colonies identified by Alachua County Animal Services. This will be achieved through mass sterilization accompanied by nuisance mitigation steps and structured follow-up. Success can be measured by a decrease in citizen complaints and a reduction in the size and nuisance behavior of cat colonies.

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

This program will add 625 surgeries above what is currently provided.

Methods

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

Cats will be unowned stray and feral community cats referred by Alachua County Animal Services.

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

Animal Control officers and dispatchers will report problem areas.

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

Animal Control Officers are in the field meeting residents one-on-one where they live. Spanish-speaking officers are available. Personnel from the Shelter Medicine Program are available to assist in communication and logistics as needed.

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.

N/A

Veterinary Services

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

Surgeries will be performed by Shelter Medicine Program veterinarians and veterinary students in the surgery suite at the College of Veterinary Medicine.

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

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program	2015 SW 16th Avenue	Gainesville	FL	32608	352-258-6658	<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
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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
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 checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
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 type="radio"/> Yes
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 which is required and \$2 per animal for rabies vaccination.

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

These additional treatments are essential for cat welfare and public health. Grant funds will not be used for these procedures; they will be funded from private donors.

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	Selection of cat populations for TNR
Humane Society of North Central Florida	Adoption of kittens found during the TNR program.
Operation Catnip	Loans traps for capturing cats for TNR

Other Information

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

The Shelter Medicine Program has a long track record of successful TNR projects and positive community relationships. We are confident that this targeted approach in collaboration with our local animal control agency will take this TNR project to the next level by focusing our resources where they are most needed and can have the greatest impact on community well-being. We have developed protocols for protection of clinic personnel and clients in the COVID era. In addition to providing high-quality veterinary care, this project provides veterinary students with the experience and skills they need to continue this work after graduation.

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.):

Donated funds and supplies will be used to pay for vaccines and parasite treatments. Examination, ear-tipping, and pain medication is included in the cost of surgery (\$40/cat).

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

The Shelter Medicine Program is supported by grants and charitable gifts, however this specific project has no other funding source. This proposal will cover approximately one quarter of the complete spay/neuter program for one year

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

27%

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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: 09/01/21/ **Projected end date:** 06/01/22

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.**

The Shelter Medicine Program has strong track record of acquiring grants and donations for ongoing operations. The faculty will continue to pursue funds to support the sustainability of this project. Donors are especially attracted to our surgery program because of the additional benefit of training future veterinarians in spay/neuter skills and in the problems of homeless animals. The program has attracted two endowments that will generate ongoing revenue in perpetuity.

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 promote this grant through social media posts (our Facebook page has over 10,000 followers) and the blog that is published on our University of Florida Shelter Medicine Program web page. We are also happy to contribute to the FAF blog. Both faculty members have had FAF license plates for many years (Dr. Levy's says TNRDR).

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

6