

Grant ID: 2082

**Title of Proposal:** Hillsborough County Cat Assistance

**Agency Type:** Non-Profit

**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00

**Check Payable To:** Humane Society of Tampa Bay

Application Information

Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** Humane Society of Tampa Bay

**Website Address:** [humanesocietytampa.org](http://humanesocietytampa.org)

**Person Submitting Proposal:** Lisa Novorska

**Position:** Donor and Community Engagement Manager

**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** [lisan@humanesocietytampa.org](mailto:lisan@humanesocietytampa.org)

**Agency Head:** Sherry Silk

**Agency Head Email:** [sherrys@humanesocietytampa.org](mailto:sherrys@humanesocietytampa.org)

**Organization Business Address:** 3607 N. Armenia Ave.

**City:** TAMPA

**State:** FL

**Zip:** 33607-1322

**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 813-774-4344

**Fax:**

**Cell:** 813-625-3475

Agency Details

**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 01/01/1980

**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/20 **End:** 12/31/20

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$16,432,271.00

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$11,213,332.00

**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 115 Part Time: 0

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 3811

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 4077.00

**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** We were fortunate to have received a grant from Florida Animal Friends in the past.

**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):**

**Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2020, 2018, 2016, 2014, 2012, 2010 Year(s) denied/incomplete:

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
49	2009	Saving Lives	Denied
169	2010	Community Cats	Funded
290	2012	Community Cats	Funded
1416	2014	Tampa Free Roaming Cats	Funded
1607	2007		Funded
1637	2016	Tampa Free Roaming Cats	Funded
1754	2018	Hillsborough Pit Bulls and Free Roaming Cats	Funded
1885	2020	TNVR - Hillsborough County	Funded
2082	2022	Hillsborough County Cat Assistance	Funded

**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

**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
Diane Homa	Board Member	727-540-9359	President, Fountainhead Funding, LLC
Elise Zahn, D.O.	Board Member	561-601-5100	Physician, Tampa General Hospital
Jacalin Russo	Board Member	813-992-6644	VP, PNC Bank
Laura Tatem	Board Member	813-870-8774	Director of Internal Audit, Tampa International Airport
Liana Fuentes	Board Member	813-248-5358	VP, The Fuente Companies
Linda Reitz	Emeritus Board	813-995-9333	Financial Consultant
Mary Scott	Board President	813-814-2182	Retired-General Manager, Marriott
Meredith Balasco	Board Member	813-251-8845	Owner, Meredith Haws Jewelry
Morris Massey	Board Member at Large	813-777-7394	Deputy City Attorney
Nancy Newman	Board Secretary	813-244-4189	Retired-Director of Patient Support, Moffitt Cancer Ctr.
Philip Nodhturft III	Board Treasurer	727-614-0652	Attorney
Rachel Ridley	Board Member	813-444-1529	Managing Director, Avesta Communities
Ryan Cook	Board Member	813-442-2580	N/A
Sarah Glaser	Board Vice President	813-676-7207	Attorney
Steven Hearn	Board Member	813-222-0003	Attorney
Suzie Archibald	Board Member	813-382-6864	N/A
Wyatt Castellvi	Board Member	813-838-2264	CEO, Rhyno Glass

**Applicant Qualifications**

**For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:**

**7668 cats and 5987 dogs were admitted.**

**6126 cats and 4953 dogs were adopted.**

**643 cats and 403 dogs were euthanized.**

**3750 cats and 2276 dogs were sterilized.**

**Briefly describe your animal programs:**

- Stray/Lost pet intake
- Foster Program
- Wellness services to understand pet owners
- Volunteer Program
- Owner surrendered animals
- Food Bank
- Cruelty investigation
- High volume spay/neuter clinic
- Lost and Found Program
- Behavior counseling
- Enforcement of ordinances
- Full service wellness clinic
- Adoption Program
- Disaster services

**If your program performs adoptions, are all animals sterilized before adoption?**

Yes

**If not all, what percentage of animals are not currently sterilized before adoption?**

**If not all, how are animals selected for sterilization before adoption?**

**If not all, describe your sterilization policies and procedures for assuring sterilization after adoption:**

**Give additional background information on your organization's programs as they relate to this application and the qualifications of the personnel who will be in charge of this program. Show that you have the ability to carry out this program.**

Since 2007, the Humane Society of Tampa Bay has been dedicating Mondays to feral and community cat surgeries for our TNVR program. Dr. Karla Bard is our Director of Medical Operations and she oversees this program. She has worked at the Humane Society of Tampa Bay for 14 years and

is a graduate of the University of Florida Veterinary School. In addition to Dr. Bard, we have 9 other veterinarians at our full service animal hospital who can assist with surgeries when needed. In 2014, the Humane Society of Tampa Bay's animal hospital was the first non-profit hospital in Florida to receive accreditation by AAHA. We received this certification again in 2016 and 2019 as well. Since 2007, we have sterilized over 73,000 feral and community cats through our TNVR program.

**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 have a program for TNVR and have sterilized over 73,000 cats through this program since 2007. There is not enough funding for free-roaming and community cats, and many people who care for these cats cannot afford to get all of them sterilized. We would like to offer free TNVR services to help reduce the overpopulation of unwanted cats in our community. This program reduces the unnecessary euthanasia of cats in the county municipal shelter and will help lower the intake of cats in both our shelter and the county shelter. This will positively impact the overall save rate for cats in our county.

**Florida Animal Friend grants are for low-cost and/or no-cost spay/neuter programs; If you currently have such a program, please describe**

We currently offer spay/neuter surgery through our TNVR program for a cost to the public of \$25/cat, which includes the surgery, ear tipping, and the Rabies and FVRCP vaccines. These animals are sterilized in addition to all of the animals who are sterilized at the shelter as part of our adoption services.

**Number of animals sterilized in that program in the past year:**

**Cats:** 3588 **Dogs:**

Target Population

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):</b>	Hillsborough County
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	1,478,194
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	11.9%
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	447938
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	369549
<b>Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	246366
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	12690
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	9701
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	899
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	599
<b>Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.</b> We believe that the target area animal population is similar to that listed above.	
<b>Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:</b> Free roaming, feral, and community outdoor cats that are unsterilized significantly add to the cat overpopulation by having multiple litters every year.	
<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> Hillsborough County offers a spay/neuter voucher program for residents receiving public assistance where the cost of the surgery plus a rabies shot is \$10. These services are only available for owned pets and not for community and feral cats.	
<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 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.**

We will concentrate on cats in Hillsborough County, which covers approximately 1,266 square miles.

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

Residents of Hillsborough County whose cats go outside and those who take care of free-roaming, feral, and/or community cats will be eligible for

this grant.

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

Hillsborough County includes rural, suburban, and urban areas, with both commercial and residential areas.

**Estimated number of cats in the target colony area :** 246366

**Estimated number that are currently sterilized:** 68065

**Projected reduction after utilizing the grant:** 500

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

The cats have either an owner or someone who regularly cares for them. We are very fortunate that we have a dedicated force of volunteer community cat caretakers in our area.

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

Yes

**Please explain what is allowed:**

Community and Free-roaming cats who have been sterilized, vaccinated, and ear-tipped are allowed to be fed or cared for by the public. Community cats that are scheduled to be euthanized at Hillsborough County Pet Resource Center can be transferred to our animal hospital, sterilized, and returned back to neighborhoods rather than being euthanized.

**(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:**

Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners, Hillsborough County Pet Resource Center, Rescue Pets of Tampa, St. Francis Animal Society, Animal Based Charities, Meow Now, Pasco County Animal Services, and other groups in the area.

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

Sterilizing and managing outside cat populations has been shown to reduce impact on local wildlife because the cats prefer to be fed by their caretakers rather than having to hunt wildlife for food.

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

Our Community Outreach Manager oversees our TNVR Program and is available to help educate the public and mitigate problems if they occur. She already speaks to the public about topics such as how to trap feral cats and how to foster feral kittens.

**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.**

Cats will be ear-tipped for free-roaming and feral cats. Any owned cats who go outside can be ear tipped at the owner's request. Our TNVR program has made a huge difference in the ability to manage free-roaming and feral cats since its inception in 2007. This program will allow us to focus on free-roaming cats and those that are owned but may go outside and contribute to the pet overpopulation problem.

## Objectives

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

With funding from Florida Animal Friends, we would provide free spay/neuter surgeries for 500 outdoor cats in Hillsborough County at no cost to the public. We would perform the surgeries for \$50 per cat and provide pain medication, rabies vaccine, and FVRCP vaccine for each cat as well. We would also ear-tip all free-roaming and community cats. Our goal is to reduce the number of cat intakes and cats euthanized in Hillsborough county.

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

This program would allow us to sterilize more than 40 extra cats per month (for a total of 500 cats.) This will help to further reduce pet overpopulation, especially in Hillsborough County Shelters. We had a very high volume of cat intakes last year (many of them from public drop offs of litters of kittens born to outside cats), and providing spay/neuter services for the public will help to decrease the number of homeless kittens born to outside cats.

## Methods

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

We will sterilize cats whose owners live in Hillsborough County and free-roaming cats who have a caretaker in Hillsborough County. All cats will be

vaccinated and free-roaming cats will also be ear-tipped.

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

We will advertise this program on our website (with over 100,000 views per month), our Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook Pages (with a combined 130,000 followers), and on our regular segments with media outlets such as Fox 13, NBC Channel 8, CBS, and 93.3 radio station. We will also advertise through our email list to over 90,000 recipients and have flyers available at our shelter and Animal Health Centers to promote this program.

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

We are very centrally located in Hillsborough County and easily accessible via public transportation, rideshare, and car. We also have volunteers who are able to transport people with disabilities or lack of any transportation to the animal hospital if requested. Our Community Outreach Manager can also take our transport van out to the county shelter or locations with multiple cats needing to be sterilized (such as apartment complexes and trailer parks) to transport them back to the animal hospital. To improve accessibility to multiple cultures in our area, the flyers can be translated into Spanish and we can have Spanish translators available to assist clients when they arrive.

**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.**

Most animals will be transported by the client. Our TNVR transport van can also be used to help transport cats from specific locations or from the county shelter. Both our Community Outreach Manager and the transport vehicle will be covered by the Humane Society of Tampa Bay insurance. All animals will be transported in traps for safety.

**Veterinary Services**

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

We have 11 veterinarians, including our shelter veterinarian. Two veterinarians typically perform spay/neuter surgeries for the public and the others can assist as needed in addition to seeing wellness patients and performing specialty surgeries at our animal hospital.

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

**Veterinary Practices**

**Fee Range**

What is the fee range to be paid for spay and neuter and what is the distribution to be paid by the client vs. the grant program? Keep in mind that Florida Animal Friend grant funds may only be used for costs directly associated with sterilization surgery (including anesthesia and pain control, 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="\$50.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>
<b>Range for Female Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>
<b>Range for Male Dogs</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
<b>Range for Female Dogs</b>	<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?
<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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<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="\$7.50"/>

**HW Testing**

Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes

**Feline Leuk/FIV**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes

**County License**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes

**Ear tipping**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  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:**

Rabies Vaccine, FVRCP Vaccine, ear tipping, and pain medications will be covered by HSTB.

**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
Animeals/Meals on Wheels	The Humane Society of Tampa Bay offers a food assistance program called Animeals, which is essentially a "Meals on Wheels" program for pets. People who are elderly, disabled, or homebound can apply for this program and we have volunteers deliver free pet food to them monthly to allow them to keep their pets at home. We currently collaborate with Meals on Wheels for our Animeals program. When they discover that a pet owner is in need of food for their pets, they refer people to us and we add them to our delivery route. Many of these recipients also feed outdoor cats and we TNVR these cats so that they are sterilized.
Hillsborough County Pet Resource Center	We work closely with the Pet Resource Center and will continue to perform TNVR services for them every week. They can also help distribute flyers to those in the community who would benefit from this grant.
Local Media	We have regular TV segments scheduled with with local news and radio stations: FOX, CBS, NBC, and 93.3 FLZ. We will be able to advertise the grant through these media outlets to get the word out to the Hillsborough County community.
Rescue Pets of Tampa	We work closely with this local rescue group, and they will be able to help refer residents with community and/or free-roaming cats who would benefit from this grant.
St. Francis Animal Society	We work closely with this local rescue group. They will be able to refer residents with free-roaming and/or community cats to us to receive services as a result of this grant.

### Other Information

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

Overpopulation of cats is still a huge problem facing our local shelters and our cat intakes continue to be very high. We are confident that this

grant will help reduce the number of homeless cats and eliminate unnecessary euthanasia at shelters. Please note that we have not yet completed our tax filings for 2021 yet, so many financial documents provided will be from 2020, the last fiscal year where tax documents have already been filed. However, we have provided 2021 animal statistics wherever possible.

## Budget

### **Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:**

**Cats:** 500 **Dogs:** 0

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

**Average cost/surgery projected:** \$50.00

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

The Humane Society of Tampa Bay would cover the cost of the spay/neuter surgery, rabies and FVRCP vaccines, pain medication, and ear tipping for the cats. Caretakers have the option to purchase a microchip and do other tests such as the Feline leuk/FIV test for a nominal fee if they wish.

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

We host a fundraising dinner every year to raise funds for the feral/community cat program. We will also continue to seek grant funding and donations for this important program.

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

9.26%

/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:** 09/01/22/ **Projected end date:** 07/31/23

### **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 Humane Society of Tampa Bay will continue to offer affordable TNVR services in the future. We will actively pursue additional grant funding for the TNVR program to allow us to perform this service for the public at little to no cost.

## 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 are happy to promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate through various methods. We can promote on social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) to approximately 130,000 followers. We can also promote the license plate via email to over 90,000 recipients and include the information on the spay/neuter program flyers to be distributed at the shelter and Animal Health Center.**

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

**Unknown**