

Grant ID: 2035

**Title of Proposal:** TNR Tampa  
**Agency Type:** Non-Profit  
**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00  
**Check Payable To:** Harmony Vet Care

Application Information

Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** Wags Pet Clinic, Inc. DBA Harmony Vet Care  
**Website Address:** www.harmonyvetcare.org  
**Person Submitting Proposal:** Stephanie Sabshin, DVM  
**Position:** Executive Director  
**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** sjsabshin@gmail.com  
**Agency Head:** Stephanie Sabshin  
**Agency Head Email:** sjsabshin@gmail.com  
**Organization Business Address:** 5420 Webb Rd, Suite C2  
**City:** Tampa  
**State:** FL  
**Zip:** 33615  
**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 813-871-0850  
**Fax:**  
**Cell:** 813-390-1623

Agency Details

**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 05/26/2017

**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/21 **End:** 12/31/21

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$5,963,634.00

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$5,635,624.00

**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 63 Part Time: 7

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 12

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 150.00

**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** We were previous recipients in 2018

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

**Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2018 Year(s) denied/incomplete:

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

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1819	2019	A Spay A Day	Funded
2035	2022	TNR Tampa	Funded

Describe your Organization:

Services Provided

- Open Admission Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter
- Foster Network
- Animal Control
- Spay/Neuter Services
- Other Full Service Clinic

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
Angela Backus	Board Member	727-234-3477	Veterinarian
Carol Lansford	President	678-358-0171	Service Dog Training
Natalie Felts	Board Member	813-205-3353	Lab Technician
Sandra Sabshin	Board Member	813-505-6345	Bar Tender
Valerie Sabshin	Secretary/Treasurer	813-996-9542	Retired

**Applicant Qualifications**

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

**32 cats and 2 dogs were admitted.**

**32 cats and 2 dogs were adopted.**

**0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.**

**5878 cats and 4560 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.**

Our clinic already operates a full time low-cost spay/neuter service. We have begun a no-cost TNR event, which will be held monthly, to help encourage TNR in the local community. This is a much needed program, as the feral cat population contributes thousands of unwanted kittens to shelters and rescues every year.

**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?**

Our clinic is fee based. We charge clients for services. TNR is challenging when it comes to a fee based model. We believe feral cats are valuable individuals, and deserve the very same care owned cats receive. However, it is challenging for clients to spare the funds to care for animals that are not their own. Grants are essential to helping TNR numbers reach a level where they could be effective in a community.

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

Harmony Vet Care is a full service, non-profit veterinary clinic in the Tampa area. We have 8 full time veterinarians and nearly 70 support staff. We have two locations in Hillsborough County. Our staff are highly trained, talented, and efficient, and well versed in high volume spay/neuter.

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

**Cats: 5878 Dogs: 4560**

**Target Population**

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):</b>	Tampa, Hillsborough County
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	384,959
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	18.6%
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	116655
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	96240

<b>Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	64160
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	8072
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	6534
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	256
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	196
<b>Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.</b> We believe this is reflective of our target population.	
<b>Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:</b> The most substantial source of cats entering the shelter are feral and community cats reproducing in the field. The kittens are removed by citizens, and passed through the shelter and into rescues (or bypass the shelter and go directly to rescue). Thousands of kittens saturate the shelter and rescues each year. Our goal is to significantly reduce the number of unwanted kittens in Hillsborough county by reducing the source of homeless kittens.	
<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> The county shelter, Pet Resource Center, has a TNR program they funnel through the Humane Society. Harmony Vet Care also accepts TNR walk ins 6 days per week. There are several other smaller non-profits such as TLC, Petluv, Operation Petsnip, and ACT, which all provide low cost spay neuter. Unfortunately, with Hillsborough being one of the largest counties in the country, this is still not enough. Spay/neuter services are still booked out weeks in advance, and frequently, TNRs are not accepted due to full schedules.	
<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 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.**

Our target area is Hillsborough County, Florida. The county occupies approximately 1,020 sq miles.

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

The cats need to be in traps, and will be ear tipped and vaccinated during the surgical procedure. The cat must be healthy enough for surgery and at least 2 pounds. The colony must have an address in Hillsborough county.

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

The target area is urban, with a mix of commercial and residential.

**Estimated number of cats in the target colony area :** 210000

**Estimated number that are currently sterilized:** 75000

**Projected reduction after utilizing the grant:** 25000

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

We have an established relationship with numerous trappers who are managing established colonies. They provide food, water, and monitor for medical concerns. We accept feral cats as walk in medical exams 6 days per week, knowing it is nearly impossible to schedule when you will be able to catch a feral cat, and frequently, by the time a feral cat shows illness, they are more severe than they seem. We are happy to educate new volunteers.

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

Yes

**Please explain what is allowed:**

Our county has voted in support TNVR. Under the leadership of Scott Trebatoski, Hillsborough allows for TNVR to be practiced as long as certain conditions are met. The feral cats are to be routine provided with adequate food and water. Caregivers must be able to provide proof of vaccines. County license tags are not required. This is consistent with the packages we are providing.

**(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 has a large community support for TNVR including the county shelter (Pet Resource Center), numerous rescues (Chalkys Crusade, St. Francis, First Ladies Farm, etc) and many private citizens and volunteers. There are multiple clinics providing TNVR including Harmony Vet Care, the Humane Society, TLC, Petluv, etc. Unfortunately, even with the extensive list of supporters, the need for TNVR is still high, and surgery schedules are saturated.

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

Managed colonies seldom have a negative impact on local wildlife. Cats that are fed on a regular basis are less likely to hunt local wildlife for food, and often become socialized with other wildlife. The ferals who are not managed in a colony are a much bigger concern for local wildlife.

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

One of the most important details to mitigating potential nuisance issues, is ensuring the cats receive proper medical care. It is also important to lessen the human health implications of feral cats, with prevention of zoonotic diseases such as hookworms, roundworms, scabies, and rabies. Also, a spayed/neutered cat is much less of a nuisance than an intact feral, which is more likely to fight and mate.

**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.**

TNR is a vital program in the Tampa area. Unfortunately, it is difficult to convince private citizens to pay for the care of community cats. It is essential to create programs that subsidize the spay/neuter of community cats, to help reduce the numbers of unwanted kittens entering the local shelters and rescues.

## Objectives

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

Our objective for this TNR program is to reduce live births in the field, and thereby reduce kitten intake at the local shelter.

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

In 2021, we performed 1,586 TNR surgeries. This program would fund an additional 500 surgeries, increasing our TNR efforts by 33%.

## Methods

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

The cat must arrive in a trap, and receive an ear tip. They must be over 2 pounds, and healthy enough for surgery. Caretakers must agree to continued management of the colony.

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

We will advertise on facebook and on our website. Our first TNR day, scheduled for February 28, is already fully booked with 100 cats. The county shelter will also advertise this event to citizens in need, and known trappers.

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

We have numerous bilingual technicians and receptionists. We work within a team of rescues, volunteers, and the shelter to organize TNR and colony care and management. Within that team, there is always someone available to help with education and transportation concerns. Last time we received a FAF grant, we advertised it on the local radio in English and Spanish, which would reach the illiterate.

**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.**

Animals will only be transported by caretakers/rescue groups participating in the TNR event. We will not be providing transportation.

## Veterinary Services

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

We have 5 full time veterinarians who will be available once per month, for a TNR event to spay and neuter 100 cats. We will be able to finance 5 of these events with this grant.

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

**Veterinary Practices**

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Wags Pet Clinic, Inc. DBA Harmony Vet Care	5420 Webb Rd. Suite C2	Tampa	FL	33615	813-871-0850	<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="\$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 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="\$40.00"/>
<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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>HW Testing</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>Feline Leuk/FIV</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="\$25.00"/>
<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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Microchip</b>	<input 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="\$25.00"/>
<b>Other</b>	<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:**

The county shelter is donating Rabies and FVRCP vaccines, our Zoetis rep is donating Revolution and convenia as needed.

**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
Fox Foster Kittens	Financing \$50 per TNR surgery that exceeds those financed by the grant, for the year of 2022. We will be hosting 1 TNR event per month, 100 cats per event, monthly in 2022.
Pet Resource Center	Donating Rabies vaccines and FVRCP vaccines, helping advertise
Zoetis	Donating Convenia as needed and Revolution as needed

## Other Information

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

This is a year long TNR effort, consisting of 100 cats per month, for 12 months (at least). We are applying for funding that would cover 500 cats (5 months) to help subsidize the cost of this large TNR community effort. Thank you sincerely for your consideration!

## 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.):**

Rabies and FVRCP will be donated by the local shelter. Convenia and Revolution will be donated by our Zoetis rep. Other services are available for purchase by the caretaker, such as sedated exam, radiograph, FIV/FelV testing, microchipping, etc.

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

We will be hosting this TNR event each month of 2022. The months not covered by this grant will be funded by Fox Foster Kittens, a local rescue that specializes in sick and injured kittens.

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

41%

/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:** 08/29/22/ **Projected end date:** 01/29/23

### 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.**

This event is made possible by a partnership between Harmony Vet Care, the Pet Resource Center (local shelter) Fox Foster Kittens, and Zoetis.

Other TNR days not paid for by the Florida Animal Friends Grant would be paid for by one of the partners. Fox Foster Kittens has agreed to cover the other 6 dates planned for 2022.

### 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.**

**Harmony Vet Care will promote the program through placement on our website and social media. Information about the grant and license plate was first placed on our website when we received a FAF grant in 2019, and has been on our website since. We will also place rack cards promoting Florida Animal Friend license plates in our lobby. The license plates will be mentioned in all advertising about the program. Many of our staff have the license plate and are enthusiastic supporters.**

**Number of FAF specialty plates on vehicles of staff and/or volunteers:  
At least 5**