

Grant ID: 2172

Title of Proposal: Saving Lives
Agency Type: Non-Profit
Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00
Check Payable To: Humane Society Of Manatee County Inc

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Humane Society Of Manatee County Inc
Person Submitting Proposal: Valerie E Bliss
Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: VALERIE@HUMANESOCIETYMANATEE.ORG

Agency Head: Rick Yocum
Organization Business Address: 2515 14th Street West
State: Florida
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 941-747-8808
Cell: 941-405-7551

Website Address: 2515 14th St. W.
Position: Director of Development
Agency Head Email: rick@humanesocietymanatee.org
City: Bradenton
Zip: 34205
County: Manatee
Fax:

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:
Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 10/01/21 **End:** 09/30/22
Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$2,930,133.00
Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$2,767,618.00
Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 26 Part Time: 4
Number of Active Volunteers: 231
Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 146.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Email and past grants

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 2009, 2011, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2013

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
64	2009	Targeted Spay Neuter Grant	Funded
268	2011	Targeted S/N	Funded
351	2013	Targeted spay/neuter	Denied (not completed)
1407	2014	Pit Bull targeted spay/neuter	Denied
1496	2015	Help Pets, Empower People	Funded
1618	2006		Denied
1619	2007		Denied
1719	2017	Saving Lives	Funded
1853	2019	Saving Lives	Funded
2008	2021	Saving Lives	Funded
2172	2023	Saving Lives	Funded

***Type of Organization (check all that apply):**

- Municipal Animal Shelter
- Private Animal Shelter
- Private Animal Shelter with Municipal Contract
- Public Spay/Neuter Services
- Other Public Veterinary Services
 - Private Non-Profit Agency
 - TNR Group
 - Rescue Group
- Other

List the current board of directors of your nonprofit organization (Not required of governmental agency):

Name	Title
Andrea Diffendal	Member at Large
Andy Churchill	Member at Large
Henry Kiel	Member at Large
Jane Pfeilsticker	Member at Large
Julie Bynum	Member at Large
Kate Smith	Member at Large

Ken Clark	Member at Large
Lisa Hess	Vice President
Lorraine Sarnowski	Secretary
Michael Dinsmore	Treasurer
Michael Maddaloni	Member at Large
Tom Grier	President

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

520 cats and 342 dogs were admitted.

513 cats and 336 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.

7 cats and 3 dogs were euthanized.

229 cats and 168 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stray/lost pet intake | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foster program | <input type="checkbox"/> Wellness services to understand pet owners | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteer program |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Owner surrendered animals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food bank | <input type="checkbox"/> Cruelty investigation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High volume spay/neuter clinic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lost and found program | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Behavior counseling | <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement of ordinances | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full service wellness clinic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adoption program | <input type="checkbox"/> Disaster services | | |

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 capacity to carry out this program.

The Humane Society of Manatee County has operated a Humane Alliance model Spay/Neuter Clinic since April 2009. The Humane Society of Manatee County Veterinary Clinic is home to Manatee County's only high-volume/low-cost spay & neuter clinic. More than 6000 spay/neuter surgeries each year continue to help reduce the number of stray and homeless animals in our community and in shelters. Included in this number are 1500 surgeries performed on feral cats brought in by trappers. Vaccine clinics are held several times each year offering free vaccines to those in our community facing financial hardships. Our Veterinary Clinic is open to the public and offers high-quality medical care for dogs and cats at very reasonable costs. Our cat and dog wellness programs are expanding rapidly and the addition of a second veterinarian to the medical team took place in September 2016. Dental examinations and procedures are crucial to maintaining a healthy pet and our low-cost services make dentals very affordable. The most recent lifesaving equipment added is an x-ray machine made possible by the support of generous donors. The mission of the Humane Society is heavily tied to prevention through spay/neuter. We are committed to promoting low-cost and free spay/neuter surgery and seek grants to offer programs for low-income residents. The Humane Society of Manatee County serves as the lead agency in animal welfare in our community due to our ability to offer much need programs and services because of our expanded state-of-the-art Veterinary Clinic. Our spay/neuter programs are led by our Veterinary and Medical Director, Dr. Lindsey Rollend.

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 have a current program for low-cost sterilization of cats and dogs (puppies and kittens over two months and two pounds) available to the public. We also currently provide spay/neuter services for community cats as well as feral cats brought to our Veterinary clinic in humane traps. In addition, we have received numerous grants over the years to provide services to under-served residents and target breeds that contribute to overpopulation at the County Shelter. Unfortunately, the Manatee County Low-income grant provides limited funding which falls short of meeting the dramatic increase of spay/neuter surgeries in Manatee County. It is, for this reason, this grant is greatly needed. Population growth has driven the need to provide low/no-cost veterinary care. As the population of Manatee County continues to grow at rates (3.3 % - 5.2%) that outpace the growth rate statewide, the number of owned animals in Manatee County continues to increase as well. At the current population of two hundred thousand (200,000) owned cats and dogs in Manatee County it is expected that the number of owned animals in Manatee County would exceed two hundred fifty-thousand (250,000) within five (5) years. In

addition to the organic growth of the number of owned pets, the need for low-to-moderate cost veterinary care also continues to outpace the availability of that care.

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

Cats: 3720 **Dogs:** 2403

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc.):	Manatee County
Total human population in target area:	412703
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	9.9
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	125062
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	103176
Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	68784
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1950
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1706
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	135
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	94
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.	
We analyzed the geographical data of all the animals have performed spay/neuter surgeries and determined that the demand for our services is county-wide and is growing exponentially as the county's population continues to grow.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:	
The reasons are varied and complex but include pets that were once owned pets being allowed to become members of local colonies through neglect, lack of education, and overpopulation of pets.	
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?	
Humane Society of Manatee County provides high quality/low to moderate cost spay/neuter surgeries to local residents. We continually seek grant opportunities for low income families to provide free to low cost spay/neuter services where possible. This program, targeting TNR, will provide sterilization services to those individuals that consistently provide food and water sources to free roaming/feral cat population in their local neighborhoods. Without funding, such as this, in many cases, they would be overrun by the cat population in their areas and be forced to remove the cats and take them to their local Animal Control shelter.	
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input type="checkbox"/> Large mixed-breed dogs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trap-Neuter-Return of free-roaming community cats <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Objectives

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

We hope to accomplish a reduction in the intake of animals from the targeted area and a coinciding reduction in the euthanasia of animals from the targeted area. In addition, we hope to continue to decrease the intake of cats in our area to local shelters and Animal Control. Many counties struggle with the insurmountable number of the cat's surrenders to their local Animal Control agencies, thus resulting in an unacceptable number of euthanasia. Our county continues to be committed to the TNR program, thus subsequently controlling the intake of cats to the shelter. While many counties experience a 3 – 1 ratio of cats over dog surrenders, our county continually experiences a live outcome of 93% of their cat population. We believe it is mainly related to the active TNR program supported by our local community. Our Community Outreach program has the tools and resources to effectively reach and motivate the targeted community residents to act on behalf of their animal's welfare, but will not have enough funding for the required procedures. Our objective is to decrease in-take from the targeted area by 5%. We have received grants to assist in covering the cost of spay/neuter surgeries, however, we will need to augment that funding to meet the anticipated demand. We are seeking funding to perform an additional 400 surgeries when our low-income funding traditionally runs out.

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

The need in this community outpaces the available funding. We do not anticipate any difficulties being able to perform the additional surgeries because we have the capacity in our Veterinary clinic with the assistance of trained veterinarians and technicians.

Methods

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

For owned cats, we will use the same criteria we use for the funding provided by the Manatee Low-Income grant so it is easy for our staff and the residents, being any form of government assistance or if their income is at or below the standard for poverty. They will need to have some form of ID to show that they live in the targeted area. Community Cats and Trapped cats are brought to our Veterinary Clinic in humane traps and all receive an ear tip.

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

We will use local print media; social media; Radio and community outreach to advertise the need and will provide all messaging in English and in Spanish to overcome language barriers residing in Manatee County.

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

We will address the language and literacy barrier by maintaining the number of staff who are bilingual.

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.

Rescue groups and Manatee County Animal Services transport TNR cats to the Humane Society of Manatee County from the community.

Veterinary Services

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

Our staff Veterinarian manages a team of Veterinarians contracted by the Humane Society of Manatee County. The Humane Society of Manatee County will act as the lead Veterinarian practice. Our team is prepared to meet additional demands when necessary.

Are they: In-House Veterinarian Outside Clinic Combination

Participating veterinary practices if surgeries will not be performed in-house:**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="\$45.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$60.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$60.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$90.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$90.00"/>

Please check each item below to indicate additional services offered at the time of surgery, whether the client is required to pay for them, and if so what the fee is. For example, if an examination is required for surgery but is not charged to the client it would be marked: Required Yes, Fee to client No

Required, Optional, or Not Offered	Fee to Client?
Examination <input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Rabies Vaccination if Due <input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$18.00"/>
Other Vaccination if Due <input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$19.00"/>
Pain Medication <input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Parasite Medication <input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
HW Testing <input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
Feline Leuk/FIV <input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>
County License <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"/>
Ear tipping <input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Microchip <input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
Other <input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

None of the anticipated grant funds can be used for any of the above services, except for mandatory pain medication and \$2 per animal for rabies vaccination.

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

The information given above is for our regular clients but for this specific funding, if granted, we will provide a Rabies vaccine and a microchip at no cost if the client is unable to pay. The price listed spay/neuter surgery is the same amount that we receive for the Manatee County low income grant.

Is this a voucher program? No

If so, how will you assure utilization of 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 number redeemed for spay/neuter surgeries?

Community Collaboration

Florida Animal Friend values community/inter-agency collaboration. 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
All Kitty Korner	Through their trapping efforts they identify cats that may be candidates for adoption
Gulf Shore Animal League	Gulf Shore Animal League is an organization that traps feral cats and would be labeled a TNR group. The Humane Society of Manatee County performs the surgeries for the trapped cats from Gulf Shore Animal League
Manatee County Animal Services	This is our local County Animal Services and Shelter. They have agreed to help disseminate information through road officers and when people come in to redeem their pets. They are also the organization that will provide intake and euthanasia data to chart the progress of the grant.

Other Information

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

Due to the population growth in Manatee County coupled with a very strained unstable economy, this program request will add needed funding to our multi-faceted approach to help stem the influx of animals entering the County Shelter from the targeted area by addressing the increasing needs of the people most likely to turn in their pets or have them picked up by Animal Services. The ability to provide increased funding for spay/neuter services to low-income, under-served neighborhoods with a household income under \$35,000 is critical. The demand for our services has grown exponentially across the entire county. All of the neighborhoods in Manatee County we wish to serve are part of a strategic community effort to help people, help their pets and keep them for the life of the pet. Thank you for collecting funds for this important purpose and for the opportunity to apply.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 300 **Dogs:** 100

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$63.00

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

We will encourage Heartworm testing and low-cost Heartworm prevention. We will also provide ear-tipping and antibiotics for trapped cats and community cats. We continue to seek funding to cover the cost of vaccines for low-income families.

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

We recently received funding from Manatee Community Foundation to assist with spay/neuter services for families financially challenged. We also created a Spay it Forward fund in which we ask clinic clients and guests to consider participating (with this program last fiscal year we raised over \$10,000). We are also requesting funding to cover low-income residents in need of services from our current donor base and we are and will continue to seek funding to keep up with the demand for services in our community.

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

30

Timeline

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: 08/27/23/ **Projected end date:** 08/26/24

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.**

One of the key initiatives and priorities of our governing Board of Directors is to be able to meet the community's need for our spay/neuter program. In 2021, our organization partnered with a prominent strategy-building company to develop and publish a business plan mapping a path to expand veterinary services at our clinic to meet the needs of the community. Lastly, our organization creates and executes a very detailed Development plan which maps out a variety of goals, strategies, and tactics necessary to raise income to support our programs throughout our organization.

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.**

Information on the License Plate program is on our website. In addition, we include a pamphlet in every adoption packet and we also have a full display of the pamphlet in our shelter lobby and our clinic lobby.

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

3