

Grant ID: 2138

**Title of Proposal:** TNR Gadsden

**Agency Type:** Non-Profit

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

**Check Payable To:** Its Meow or Never for Ferals, Inc.

## Application Information

### Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** Its Meow or Never for Ferals, Inc.

**Website Address:** <https://www.itsmeowornevertally.com/>

**Person Submitting Proposal:** Jo A. Alford

**Position:** Director

**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** ITSMEOWORNEVERTALLY@GMAIL.COM

**Agency Head:** Jo A. Alford

**Agency Head Email:** ITSMEOWORNEVERTALLY@GMAIL.COM

**Organization Business Address:** 1179 Iron Bridge Road

**City:** Havana

**State:** FL

**Zip:** 32333

**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** (404)625-7158

**County:** Leon

**Cell:** (850) 756-9776

**Fax:**

### Agency Details

**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 02/27/2007

**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/22 **End:** 12/31/22

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$123,695.00

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$125,781.00

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

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 50

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 500.00

**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Previous grant recipient

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

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

| Grant # | Proposal Year | Proposal Title          | Status     |
|---------|---------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 125     | 2010          | North Florida TNR       | Denied     |
| 1880    | 2019          | TNR Wakulla and Gadsden | Funded     |
| 1943    | 2020          | Taylor County TNR       | Ineligible |
| 2138    | 2023          | TNR Gadsden             | Funded     |

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

**\*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     |
|--------------------|-----------|
| JoAnn Alford       | President |
| Phyllis Williamson | Director  |

**Applicant Qualifications**

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

**3204 cats and 0 dogs were admitted.**

**3168 cats and 0 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.**

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

**3131 cats and 0 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**

**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.**

Since 2007, Its Meow or Never ("IMON") has been aggressively spaying and neutering cats in Northwestern Florida. IMON has partnered with numerous organizations including Be the Solution, Tallahassee's Animal Services Center, City of Tallahassee's Animal Control, Leon County Animal Control, Leon County Humane Society, Animal Shelter Foundation, Voices of Chance Animal League, Wakulla Animal control, Gadsden County Humane Society, Jefferson County Humane Society, and numerous veterinary clinics including South Georgia Spay & Neuter and Animal Aid. IMON volunteers to manage this program include: JoAnn Hulls has over 30 years of experience in shelter operations, pet rescue, foster-based systems, and animal welfare. Christy Alford, originally from New Orleans, and has over 30 years of experience in shelter operations, pet rescue, foster-based programs, and animal welfare advocacy. After Hurricane Katrina, Christy worked with a small group of animal advocates for legislation that does not allow hurricane shelters to turn away people with pets.

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

IMON is the largest TNR group in northwestern Florida and currently owns 125 feral cat traps that are used by volunteers to do TNR services around the northwest Florida area. In 2018, IMON averaged 78 TNRs per month. During 2019, that figure increased to about 100 per month. The Loan-a-trap program dramatically increased TNRs for IMON to currently about 350 spay and neuters per month. BTS provides IMON with about 100 vouchers each month where BTS pays for the spay/neuter surgery and IMON pays for the remaining items (rabies, ear tip, pain medication, fluids, vaccinations, flea medication, wormer, and any other incidentals). Any other TNRs done by IMON above the amount paid by BTS are paid by IMON through donations from the community and fundraising.

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

**Cats:** 3131 **Dogs:** 0

### Target Population

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| <b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc.):</b>                                 | Gadsden County |
| <b>Total human population in target area:</b>  | 43,714         |
| <b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>   | 25.8%          |
| <b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>                    | 13247          |
| <b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>                    | 10929          |
| <b>Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b> | 7286           |
| <b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>        | 337            |
| <b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>        | NA             |
| <b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>      | 337            |
| <b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>      | NA             |

**Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.**

Data above combines dog and cat admitted and euthanized. The county is poor and has the worst kill rate in the state of Florida at nearly 100% over the last 10 years. Our efforts are to keep community cats and pets out of the shelter so they are not automatically euthanized by providing free spay and neuter, food, FVRCP and rabies vaccinations, and

microchips. Due to historical inability of the county's citizens to spay and neuter cats, the county has a huge number of cats that are feral or community cats. We are estimating that the number of cats are closer to 25,000 to 30,000 for Gadsden based on requests for help.

**Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:**

Free-roaming cats and unaltered-owned cats. The citizens are not aware of the beneficial reasons for spaying and neutering pets. Part of our process is to inform the citizens about the benefits of spay and neuter.

**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?**

There are no low-cost spay and neuter services available in Gadsden County.

**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:**

**Pets in low-income families**  **Large mixed-breed dogs**  **Trap-Neuter-Return of free-roaming community cats**  **Other**

## Objectives

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

We hope to drastically reduce the number of euthanized cats for Gadsden county through education, spaying and neutering, providing free food, flea and wormer, microchips, and vaccinations of cats in the community. By reducing the number of cats that go into the shelter due to any number of reasons (lost or found, cant afford, pregnant, causes fleas, etc).

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

Currently, Gadsden county does not have any low-cost spay and neutering available. We plan to do TNR on approximately 550 cats primarily at SGSN for a cost of \$45 for the surgery. We are planning to pay for the cost of rabies, and any other necessary medical expenses, which is estimated at \$20 per cat.

## Methods

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

We will target underserved populations in Gadsden county that do not have access to typical veterinary care.

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

Website, Facebook, flyers, news organizations.

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

Transportation will be provided by pet owners and volunteers.

**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.**

No

### Veterinary Services

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

Primarily South Georgia Spay and Neuter. Any overages that cannot be handled by them will be with Animal Aid and Tally Spay.

Are they:  In-House Veterinarian  Outside Clinic  Combination

**Participating veterinary practices if surgeries will not be performed in-house:**

| Practice Name                                       | Address               | City        | State | Zip   | Phone          | Lead Practice                       |
|---|-----------------------|-------------|-------|-------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Animal Aid - Spay & Neuter Center                   | 2270 Boone Blvd       | Tallahassee | FL    | 32303 | (850) 386-4148 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| South Georgia Low Cost Spay & Neuter Clinic (SGSNC) | 425 Covington Ave     | Thomasville | GA    | 31792 | (229)236-7297  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Tally Spay – Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic            | 5021 W. Tennessee St. | Tallahassee | FL    | 32304 | (850)692-3425  | <input 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="\$45.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$45.00"/> |
| <b>Range for Female Cats</b> | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$45.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$45.00"/> |
| <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?**

**Examination**    Required  Optional  Not Available       No  Yes

**Rabies Vaccination if Due**    Required  Optional  Not Available       No  Yes

**Other Vaccination if Due**    Required  Optional  Not Available       No  Yes

- Pain Medication**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes
- Parasite Medication**  Required  Optional  Not Available  No  Yes
- 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 mandatory pain medication and \$2 per animal for rabies vaccination.**

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

Ear tipping will be done on feral and free-roaming cats. Microchipping will also be done to ensure that they are not trapped by other citizens and euthanized by Gadsden County Animal Control.

**Is this a voucher program?** Yes

**If so, how will you assure utilization of the program?**

Vouchers will be distributed to individuals.

**For your voucher program, how have you determined the capacity of the veterinarians listed above to handle the projected capacity?**

They have indicated they are able to handle the additional capacity.

**Will you have the ability to report the number of vouchers issued and the number redeemed for spay/neuter surgeries?**

Yes

## 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                                    |
|---------------|---|
| Bend Bend TNR | Big Bend TNR will be trapping feral and community cats. |

| Name                          | Level of Involvement  |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Gadsden County Humane Society | Will refer individuals to IMON that need a voucher for their owned pet. |

## Other Information

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

Our goal is to reduce the number of euthanized pets in Gadsden county. We also hope to increase the number of returned pets picked up and taken to the shelter by encouraging the microchipping of cats and also making microchipping available at no cost.

## Budget

**Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:**

**Cats:** 550 **Dogs:** 0

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

**Average cost/surgery projected:** \$46.00

**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, ear tip, capstar, profender, and revolution plus.

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

Donations and targeted fundraisers over the year.

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

69

## 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:** 08/15/23/ **Projected end date:** 07/31/24

### **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.**

Primarily through fundraising and local donations, we will continue our efforts in Gadsden County. In addition, the board has dedicated funds each year for Gadsden County.

## 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.**

**Website, social media, newsletters, and handouts are provided with the voucher.**

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

**4**