

Grant ID: 2126

Title of Proposal: Snip Snip Hooray!

Agency Type: Municipal

Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00

Check Payable To: Miami-Dade County Animal Services

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Miami-Dade County Animal Services

Website Address: miamidade.gov/animals

Person Submitting Proposal: Maria Amezquita

Position: Grants Coordinator

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: maria.amezquita@miamidade.gov

Agency Head: Bronwyn Stanford

Agency Head Email: bronwyn.stanford@miamidade.gov

Organization Business Address: 3599 NW 79th Avenue

City: Doral

State: Florida

Zip: 33122

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 305-418-7187

County: Miami-Dade

Cell:

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: \$34,460,000.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$34,460,000.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 275 Part Time: 1

Number of Active Volunteers: 97

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 325.00

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: 2018 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2020/22

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
44	2009	Dade County Spay/Neuter Project	Funded
281	2011	Cat Spay/Neuter Program	Denied
371	2013	Community Cat Sterilization	Denied
1437	2014	Income Qualified Spay/Neuter	Funded
1487	2015	Free Spay/Neuter for Income Qualified Residents	Denied
1611	2007		Denied
1685	2016	Income Qualified Spay/Neuter	Funded
1803	2018	Making Spay/Neuter Accessible for the pets of Income Qualifying Residents in Miami-Dade County	Funded
1912	2020	Low-Income Spay and Neuter for Income Eligible Residents	Ineligible
2026	2022	Cats Thrive in 305: Community Cat Center	Denied
2126	2023	Snip Snip Hooray!	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):

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

21520 cats and 6742 dogs were admitted.

21118 cats and 6614 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.

1631 cats and 457 dogs were euthanized.

19148 cats and 5785 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.

ASD has successfully operated a high-quality, high-volume sterilization program for years for its shelter population and the TNVR program. However, the Department stopped offering sterilization services to owned at the Pet Adoption and Protection Center in Doral, FL in 2020 due to COVID-19, insufficient staffing, and a strategic shift of resources into the TNVR program, which renders services to more than 15,000 community cats each year. Currently, ASD only consistently offers low-cost surgeries to pet owners at its Homestead, FL location, where an average of 70 pets are sterilized each week. Nonetheless, the Department is still committed to assisting pet owners by hosting events in targeted communities and carrying out county-wide campaigns, such as Operation Pit Stop, in which 359 large breed dogs were sterilized at no cost to the pet owners. With more than eight years of experience in the management of high-quality, high-volume sterilization programs, Chief of Veterinary Services, Dr. Maria Serrano, oversees all shelter surgical programs. The clinic staff is comprised of ten shelter veterinarians and thirty-four veterinary technicians who provide the required support to ensure success of the program. ASD's marketing team promotes our efforts throughout the County and in targeted areas.

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

ASD offers free TNVR services to Miami-Dade County residents year-round. For owned pets, ASD offers a limited amount (roughly 70 weekly) of low-cost surgeries to pet owners at its Homestead, FL location. The Department also offers low and no cost sterilization services to owned pets through outreach programs, constantly seeking community partners to host events in targeted areas. ASD brings the services to these areas by deploying the Mobile Animal Clinic (MAC), thus removing barriers, making them fully accessible to anyone seeking them. In 2022, ASD performed 571 public surgeries using the MAC.

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

Cats: Dogs:

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc.):	Miami-Dade County
Total human population in target area:	2,662,777
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	15.2
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	806903
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	665695
Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	443797
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	21,520
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	6,742
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1631
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	437

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

Our target area animal population is not significantly different than the estimate above.

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

South Florida's year-round warm weather results in a longer neonate season and is a crucial factor in keeping population levels high both at our Pet Adoption and Protection agency and on the streets. This is further exacerbated by the lack of a pet sterilization mandate. Additionally, the culturally diverse populations residing in Miami-Dade County are often unaware of the health benefits or have severe misconceptions about sterilization. Lastly, poverty plays a key role, as families experiencing financial hardships must often make difficult choices and sterilizing a pet cannot be prioritized.

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?

Located in a large metropolitan area, Miami-Dade County pet owners can sterilize their pets by visiting any of the several private veterinary clinics available. However, the cost of the surgery makes it prohibitive to many pet owners. There are other animal welfare organizations that may be able to assist, including, but not limited to the Humane Society, Animal Welfare Society of South Florida, the Cat Network, and the South Florida ASPCA. Currently, ASD offers around 70 low-cost weekly at its Homestead clinic, and sporadically offers sterilization surgeries to the public through the Mobile Animal Clinic (MAC) at events hosted around the community. Despite these efforts, and as made evident by the percentage of unaltered pets that came into our care in 2022 (60% of adult dogs and 92% of adult cats) and the large community cat population, the need for free spay/neuter surgeries is much higher than the resources currently available in our community. Through Florida Animal Friend's 2018 grant, ASD projected that it would provide 507 surgeries free of charge to eligible low-income County residents in a 12-month period. Instead, ASD exhausted all slots for these surgeries within the first six months. Visitors to the Pet Adoption and Protection Center often inquire about the services the Department used to offer, and the need is also communicated to the County's information line, 311.

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)?

Through this grant, ASD will offer free sterilization services in targeted communities throughout Miami-Dade County using the MAC. During the grant period, ASD aims to host a s/n event every other month and perform a minimum of 500 surgeries. Additionally, support from this grant will allow ASD to explore the re-opening of the Doral clinic and start offering a small number (twenty) of weekly surgeries, resulting in an additional 1,100 surgeries in a year, some of which will be offered at either no or low-cost using grant funds. That latter number is more fluid and will be dependent on the number of surgeries performed at events in these critical areas.

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

ASD does not currently provide a substantial number of free or subsidized s/n surgeries to the public on a regular basis. In 2022, the Department was able to perform 571 surgeries in several zip codes in Miami-Dade County. Funding from this grant will allow ASD to offer 500 additional surgeries, almost doubling the impact on the community. Since the Doral clinic has not offered s/n surgeries since 2020, any additional surgeries performed using funds from this grant will result in an increase above the existing baseline.

Methods

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

Pet owners seeking these services must be Miami-Dade County residents. Furthermore, recipients of Food stamps, Medicaid, Aid to Families with dependent Children (AFDC), Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and Free or Reduced School Lunch are eligible for no cost surgeries. However, the Department will also render services without proof of hardship if they reside within the targeted areas and are seeking services for a large or mixed-breed dog.

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

ASD's communications team typically deploys campaigns that incorporates social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter), the Animal Services website, newsletters, emails to the County's 25,000+ employees, and press releases. ASD also leverages its relationship with Revolution Radio 93.5, Telemundo 51, and other news outlets to help publicize in the targeted communities. In addition, Miami-Dade County's District Commission Offices also share information with their constituents about available services and have historically partnered with the Department to host events that help promote pet wellbeing and further ASD's lifesaving mission. Lastly, the County's contact center, 311, has information to link residents in need of services and help promote these special events.

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

Bringing the MAC into the targeted areas will address the larger transportation and time barriers that can make it difficult to access these services. All printed promotional and educational materials are prepared in English and Spanish to ensure market saturation and radio spots on Spanish and English radio will be created through the Department's communications team.

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. However, the Department may consider granting an exception in extenuating circumstances. ASD employs transport operators and animal welfare officers who have the necessary training and operate vehicles suitable for animal transport. Miami-Dade County is self-insured, but the Department would also request a release form granting authority to transport pets on behalf of their owners.

Veterinary Services

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

ASD's own veterinary team will be performing all surgeries.

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	\$0.00	\$6.00	\$6.00

Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$9.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$9.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$20.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$20.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>

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 type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Rabies Vaccination if Due	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Other Vaccination if Due	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Pain Medication	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Parasite Medication	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
HW Testing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Feline Leuk/FIV	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
County License	<input 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="\$5.00"/>
Ear tipping	<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="\$10.00"/>
Microchip	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Other	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

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

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

The cost per surgery presented in this section is a rough estimate of the cost of consumables, as that is all that would be covered by this grant. Salaries and marketing efforts will be covered by the Department's operating budget. ASD currently receives DAPPV/FRCP vaccines from Petco Love and offers them to the public at no charge. If a pet is due for either one, ASD will use that inventory.

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
County Commissioners	ASD has a fruitful relationship with each Commissioner's office and they assist the Department.
Local Media	ASD leverages its relationship with Telemundo, Revolution Radio 93.5, News Cafe, and other local media outlets to help publicize campaigns.

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

At Miami-Dade County Animal Services, our mission is to save the lives of abandoned animals in our care, protect animals from cruelty, reunite lost pets with their owners, protect people and pets in our community from health-related issues, and ensure the public's safety. As Florida Animal Control Association's "2020 Outstanding Agency of the Year," we remain confident in our methods and proud of our results. Our Pet Adoption and Protection Center, a no-kill agency, is an open-intake facility that receives about 30,000 dogs and cats each year, regardless of age, breed, medical condition, or temperament. Reaching and maintaining this gold standard since 2015 is a testament to our commitment to animal welfare and our capabilities. Increasing s/n and TNVR services is one of the Department Director's main priorities. To that end, ASD recently completed two large-scale s/n campaigns (Operation Pit Stop and Snip, Tip Hooray!), in which nearly 600 cats and dogs were sterilized and vaccinated at no cost to the pet owner. While the possibility of returning to the full-scale s/n clinic in Doral is still being evaluated, ASD currently has the existing infrastructure, qualified staff, and community support to attain the goals outlined on this application and render s/n services by strategically scheduling events. By doing so, ASD can properly plan and align resources in a way that will not hinder normal operations

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

Cats: 400 **Dogs:** 1200

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$16.00

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 cost per surgery presented in this application covers all consumables. Salaries and marketing efforts will be covered by the Department's operating budget.

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

Miami-Dade County Animal Services will cover all salaries, promotional materials, and media coverage from its operating budget. The Department is the recipient of a large unrestricted investment from Petco Love, as well as 1,000 weekly doses of DAPPV and FRCP vaccines, which can cover any unforeseen needs. Additionally, ASD's Outreach Coordinator and its Chief of Development and Fundraising leverage their connections in the community to secure financial support or sponsorships for events. Lastly, pet owners seeking these free services can also make a small donation to support additional surgeries beyond the grant period.

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

20

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: 08/01/23/ **Projected end date:** 08/01/24

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.**

This grant will cover all projected consumables and all other expenses will be covered by the operating budget. ASD generates revenue through the vaccine clinic, tags sales, and enforcement fines. The Department also receives a steady stream of unsolicited weekly small donations from constituents, and the Chief of Development and Fundraising, along with the Grants Coordinator, secure more substantial funding in support of the Department's priorities. Lastly, ASD's Outreach Coordinator is tasked with planning events that promote the most critical needs: increasing adoptions and providing veterinary services to the community at low or 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.**

The Department will issue a press release acknowledging the grant. ASD's Communications team uses social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter), the Animal Services website, newsletters, emails to the County's 25,000+ employees, and press releases to reach the intended audience. ASD has also leveraged its relationship with Revolution Radio 93.5 to help publicize campaigns, and our District Commission Offices can also share information with their constituents.

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