

Grant ID: 2095

Title of Proposal: Spay/neuter crucial

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$6,000.00

Check Payable To: YOUCANMAKEADIFFERENCE, INC

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: YOUCANMAKEADIFFERENCE, INC.

Website Address: <http://www.youcanmakeadifference.us>

Person Submitting Proposal: Norma Torres

Position: President/Founder

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: ycmad2733@gmail.com

Agency Head: Norma Torres

Agency Head Email: ycmad2733@gmail.com

Organization Business Address: P O Box 1050

City: Gretna

State: FL

Zip: 32332

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 850-792-2152

County: Gadsden

Cell: 850-408-1483

Fax:

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 10/11/2011

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$31,042.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$27,671.00

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

Number of Active Volunteers: 6

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 65.00

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

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 2017,2019, 2021 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2014 Inc

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1388	2014	"Fix your Critters"	Denied
1694	2017	"NO more unwanted Puppies & Kittens"	Funded
1817	2019	It's time to Snip & Snap!	Funded
1955	2021	2020 Pandemic Relief	Funded
2095	2023	Spay/neuter crucial	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
David Grippe, M.D.	Treasurer
Hermes Borges	Secretary
Norma Torres	President/Founder
Shyla Williamson	Vice President

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

245 cats and 86 dogs were admitted.

215 cats and 78 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.

0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

235 cats and 76 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.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE, INC "After the Pandemic Assistance" continues to embrace Florida Animal Friend, Inc.'s mission of saving lives by supporting free and low-cost spay/neuter services. OUR spay/neuter initiatives have and will continue to leverage our high visibility in Gadsden County and adjacent neighborhoods to connect low-income and spay/neuter resistant/concerned pet owners with free or low-cost, high-quality pet sterilization services to close the gap between available resources and community needs. Our board and volunteers continue to embrace the initiative to stop the euthanasia of highly adoptable pets through adoption, spay/neuter services, and humane education. Our President/Director, Norma Torres, will continue to serve as the "After the Pandemic Assistance" Project Director, ensuring that YCMAD complies with all performance and reporting requirements. Norma holds a Doctoral degree in Forensic Neuropsychology, an M.S. in Clinical Psychology, and a B.S. in Psychology/Biology from the University of Puerto Rico. Norma has extensive management/supervisory/direct care experience, having founded and provided services for over 25 years at the first low-cost private mental health clinic in Puerto Rico and successfully initiated a movement towards the provision of free to low-cost mental health services provision in the Island. This experience and commitment to the well-being of animals/humans will help YCMAD efficiently and effectively implement the "After the Pandemic Assistance" project. One of our spay/neuter surgery providers, ANIMAL AID SPAY AND NEUTER CLINIC, employs highly trained veterinary surgeons and is capable of performing more than 5,000 surgeries per year. Collaboration with the clinic mentioned above has allowed us to do more than 250 spay/neuter surgeries in 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2017, 2014, 2013, and 2012.

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

YCMAD's sterilization program is a two-tier program: one targeted at the animals under our care/adoption program that are rescued from the streets or surrendered by their owners, and secondly, we target low-income residents who are unable to afford to spay or neuter their companion pets due to financial limitations. Animals in our care/adoption program are usually "intact" when they come into our program, and providing spay/neuter surgeries for these animals (150-215 on a regular year since 2016) requires the use of at least 1/3 of our yearly budget. 2/3 of our budget goes to provide free/low-cost spay-neuter vouchers to residents in our community. Since the inception of our no more unwanted puppies and kittens initiatives, we have seen statistics reveal a significant decrease in the number of animals euthanized in our county. To take advantage of this momentum, we must continue to outreach to our low-income community residents and address the cultural variables that prevent spay-neuter-resistant members from benefiting from this service. We also need to address those members of our community who may not be persuaded to sterilize their pets unless the service is provided free of charge.

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

Cats: 235 **Dogs:** 76

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc.):	Gadsden Co.
Total human population in target area:	43714
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	24.7
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	13247
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	10929
Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	7286
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	161 (2021) no stats yet 2022
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	176 (2021) no stats yet 2022

Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	161
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	176
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. Not significantly different, but somewhat higher based on direct observation	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: Unaltered males and females roaming the streets. Females are often seen with their puppies begging for food. The absence of reasonably priced veterinary services creates a fertile ground for animal overpopulation as animal owners cannot secure this service due to financial constraints.	
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? Available services are only via a private veterinary clinic where the cost to spay a cat range from \$75 to \$125, and for dogs, the range is from \$165 to \$250. The closest low-cost clinic is about one hour away, and many of the residents lack transportation,	
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large mixed-breed dogs <input 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)?

Allotted funds will be used to spay/neuter no less than 50 dogs/50 cats. Pet's parents will also be provided with appropriate pain medication to be administered at home.

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

Applicants will be asked to provide a co-pay for each voucher issued (if able to do so)—co-payment (if any) for the vouchers. The organization's founder's donation and grant allocation will allow more vouchers to be issued to residents in need.

Methods

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

Applicants must be Gadsden Co. residents, receive benefits from a government program, i.e., Social Security, Food Stamps, etc. Active military, extreme medical expenses, loss of home due to unforeseen circumstances.

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

Promotional material will be posted on frequently visited locations in the county, advertisements in local newspapers, advertisements in social media, and postings in community

bulletin boards as well as community boards in local television stations.

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

Our organization organizes free transportation to and from veterinary clinics. All promotional materials are written at a third-grade level in both English and Spanish.

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.

Guardians will be primarily responsible for transporting their companion pets. Nonetheless, transportation will be provided free of charge to residents with disabilities, or those who would jeopardize their jobs by requesting a day off, and/or those without vehicles. Veterinary Services

Veterinary Services

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

We will continue to collaborate with veterinary clinics that have provided reduced fees for services offered. This includes the current low-cost spay and neuter clinic in the area.

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 and Neuter Center	2270 Boone Blvd.	Tallahassee	FL	32303	850-386-4148	<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
Range for Male Cats	<input type="text" value="\$5.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$55.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$10.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$65.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$75.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$5.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$75.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$10.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>	<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 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:

Calculations for dogs are based on the average cost associated with weights up to 50 pounds.

Is this a voucher program? Yes

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

Applicants will be asked to complete a voucher request form, for which they will have to have already secured an appointment date. YCMAD will monitor voucher use; vouchers not used without a valid reason will prevent residents from securing any other voucher under this grant.

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

Data from veterinary clinic reports the presence of 4 veterinarians with the possibility of completing 5000+ surgeries per year. Traditionally this has been the case as reported by the clinic's administrator.

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
Glen Julia Methodist Church	Services promotion and transportation services
Patricia Howell	Transportation to and from veterinary clinic

Other Information

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

Communities with greater need, such as Mount Pleasant, Gretna, and Midway, and predominantly Hispanic communities, will receive flyers promoting services offered (Hispanic communities will benefit from the information in Spanish). Vouchers will also be offered during Soccer games held by Hispanic communities.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 50 **Dogs:** 50

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$6,000.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$60.00

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

YCMAD will provide free-of-charge combo vaccines and microchips to interested guardians. Rabies vaccine is not included, although voucher recipients will be made aware that it is a requirement in order to proceed with the spay/neuter surgery.

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

Budget allocation from YCMAD

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

95

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: 05/01/23/ **Projected end date:** 04/30/24

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.**

YCMAD allocates funding for spay/neutering/vaccination vouchers every year. Funding for this initiative comes directly from a donation made by its founders. In the past, we have been honored with grants from FAF and other organizations. We have also engaged in fundraising though this approach has not proven effective in our community.

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.**

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If funds are granted, we will publish on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. We consistently promote the Animal Friend License plate on these platforms.**

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

2