

Grant ID: 2157

Title of Proposal: Florida Keys Spay/Neuter

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00

Check Payable To: Florida Keys SPCA

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Florida Keys SPCA

Website Address: 5711 College Rd

Person Submitting Proposal: Katharine Billmaier DVM & Noell French

Position: Veterinarian & Clinic Manager

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: Noell@fkspca.org

Agency Head: Tammy Fox

Agency Head Email: tammy@fkspca.org

Organization Business Address: 5711 College Rd

City: KEY WEST

State: Florida

Zip: 33040

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 305-294-4857

County: Monroe

Cell:

Fax:

Agency Details

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 01/27/1999

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$3,688,854.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$2,735,603.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 26 Part Time: 3

Number of Active Volunteers: 244

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 150.00

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

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

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

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
86	2009	Community Low Cost and Free to Those in Need Spay Neuter Program	Denied
228	2011	FKSPCA Feral Cat Project	Denied
1868	2019	Florida Keys SPCA Spay Neuter	Funded
1982	2021	Florida Keys Spay/Neuter	Funded
2157	2023	Florida Keys Spay/Neuter	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
Amy Jamison	Secretary
Carol Schreck	Director
Dr. Doug Eaton	Director
Gayle Eadie	Director
Hon. Lurana Snow	Director
Jeff Johnson	President
Jim Benkoczy	Director
Linda Walker	Vice President
Shannon Fisher	Director
Sue Turner	Treasurer
Tammy Fox	Director

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

837 cats and 598 dogs were admitted.

469 cats and 226 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.

129 cats and 73 dogs were euthanized.

661 cats and 398 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.

The Florida Keys SPCA is the only open-admission welfare organization serving the middle and lower keys from mile marker 0 through mile marker 70. Our organization is comprised of two campuses, located in Marathon, FL, and Key West, FL. Between our two campuses, we accept every animal regardless of health, species, and temperament. We are a proud participant of the Shelter Animals Count and our Live Release Rate for 2022 was 91%. Our Key West campus has a state-of-the-art surgical suite as of 2019 and our Marathon campus of late 2020 launched its first spay/neuter clinic in a donated surgical trailer. We currently have a full-time shelter veterinarian, clinic manager, veterinary assistant, and admin assistant dedicated to the clinic department. Our shelter veterinarian has worked in HVHQS for the past 5 years with a strong background in high volume for large breed dogs after working in a facility with over 700 dogs on the property.

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

The FKSPCA is dedicated to spaying and neutering all our cats, dogs, and rabbits prior to adoption at both campuses. Additionally, we provide TNVR for community cats. Our shelter veterinarian, clinic manager, animal control officer, and operations director work alongside each other to also ensure that our low-income residents in our community also have access to these services at no cost. We currently offer three days a week dedicated solely to providing these services to the public and one day a week dedicated to TNVR for community cats. Funding is currently obtained through donations and fundraisers. With the high cost of living increasing by 2.9% in 2022, low-income residents have an increased disadvantage in our community's affordable spay and neutering services. There has been an increased demand for low-cost/free spay and neuter in our area as there are currently none in the middle and lower keys. This increased demand needs additional resources to meet the needs of our community.

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

Cats: 357 Dogs: 275

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc.):	Our target area is our animal control contracted area of Monroe County. Our jurisdiction starts at mile marker 0 through mile marker 70, specifically the middle and lower keys. This 70-mile radius includes the zip codes 33040, 33042, 33043, 33051, 33050, and 33001.
Total human population in target area:	60767
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	10.6

Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	18415
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	15192
Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	10128
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	837
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	598
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	129
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	73
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. We do not believe the target animal population is different from the above.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: 61% of dogs and cats surrendered to our shelter in 2022 were unaltered. Of this 61%, 64% were outdoor cats, and 35% were a combination of small mixed breed dogs and Pitbull mixes from lower-income areas. A combination of financial hardship preventing these low-income areas from affording spay/neuter services mixed with animal roaming has resulted in accidental litters contributing to our target areas' overpopulation.	
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? The FKSPCA and local private veterinarian practices are the only available sources of spay/neuter services in our targeted area. Aside from the FKSPCA, the local veterinary private practices do not offer low-cost veterinary care. The combination of the increased cost of living, lack of affordable housing, and volatile tourism industry as the main sector of income for our community, it is clear that financial hardship is the main factor in preventing our community residents from utilizing local private veterinary practices.	
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 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)?

The main objective the FKSPCA hopes to achieve with these funds is to reduce the number of owners surrendering their pets due to financial restraints and/or behavior that could be circumvented by sterilization. To ensure organization and community goals are met, monthly intake reports will be the main metric of measurement.

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

With the addition of a full-time high-volume shelter veterinarian to our clinic team, we now have the ability to offer these services more frequently as well as perform a larger

volume of surgeries per public surgery day. With the addition of our secondary locations' spay and neuter program expanding, we increase our physical accessibility for the residents in our target area.

Methods

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

Proof of residency within our 70-mile jurisdiction is the only eligibility requirement for free services.

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

We aim to reach our target audience through our partnership with the SOS foundation (our local food bank) and the Florida Keys Outreach Coalition. As the contracted animal control agency for our target area, our animal control officer will be actively promoting our low/cost spay and neuter services while in the field and will be able to put individuals in direct contact with clinic personnel. We place local ads in local publications, a daily PSA runs on US1 Morning Magazine and a featured radio show in our target area. Additionally, the FKSPCA utilizes our social media accounts and email newsletters to help advertise our services. Our Facebook page has over 66,000 followers, our Instagram account at 2,518 followers, and our Tiktok has 15,700 followers.

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

Our diverse community members are met with every possible effort made by the FKSPCA to allow them to have access to care. All clinic documents and instructions are made available in both English and Spanish as well as having a fluent bilingual Admin assistant to ensure that all verbal communications are understood by both parties. Having multiple staff members being bilingual allows greater incite into handling cultural hurdles. Transportation assistance is available on a case-by-case basis, and having two campuses in Key West and Marathon makes our services easily accessible to our community.

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.

This project does not involve the transportation of animals by anyone other than the client. However, transportation assistance can be provided on a case-by-case basis if a lack of transportation is preventing the pet owner from sterilizing their animal. If this case arises, we can provide transportation by our Animal Control officers in our animal control van. Our officers are covered under the FKSPCA organization insurance and are trained in animal handling techniques. If transportation is provided by the organization, the pet owner will sign a release and liability waiver.

Veterinary Services

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

The FKSPCA has a full-time DVM on staff, who is an experienced high-volume spay/neuter shelter veterinarian. Dr. Katie Billmaier prioritizes consistent spay and neuter clinics four days a week between our two campuses.

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	\$65.00	\$65.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$71.00	\$71.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$114.00	\$114.00

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 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 type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$10.00"/>
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="\$10.00"/>
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="\$20.00"/>
Feline Leuk/FIV <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="\$20.00"/>
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="\$15.00"/>
Ear tipping <input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Microchip <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"/>
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:

As the county contracted animal control facility for mile markers 0 through 70, we are required to issue a county license and rabies vaccination if due. Pain medication is never optional and is built into our budget.

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
Forgotten Felines	Community cat trapping and transportation assistance
Lower Keys Friends of Animals	Community cat trapping and transportation assistance
S.O.S Foundation	Foodbank that assists with pet food and distributing promotional materials
Slice of Paradise	Local Pizza restaurant distributing program promotional material
The Florida Keys Weekly	Local Print ads promoting program
US 1 Radio	On-air promotions and daily featured spay/neuter ads

Other Information

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

Our organization proudly offers multiple resources to help keep animals in the home through our safety net program, behavioral helpline, and our safe haven program but the FKSPCA believes that the main proponent in controlling overpopulation in our community is accessible spay/neuter programs. Our spay/neuter program is completely funded by donations, the Florida Animal Friend grant would enable the FKSPCA to designate the necessary funds for free spay/neuter for our low-income residents and community cat caretakers that would otherwise not be able to access them.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 250 **Dogs:** 150

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.):

Other expenses such as rabies vaccinations, microchipping, and other preventative care services will be funded through over-the-counter donations and additional foundation grants.

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

The FKSPCA will absorb the promotional expenses of printing and advertisements as part of the budget through our operating fund. We will continue to apply for local grants with our local community foundation.

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

100

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:** 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.**

As of late 2022, our West campus has become fully operational with the addition of a full-time staff veterinarian allowing us to host consistent revenue sustainers such as our biweekly Wellness clinics. With these now consistent wellness clinics alongside clinic fundraisers such as our Spay-ghetti & No Balls dinner and in-person counter donations, we are able to focus on making our Marathon campus fully operational which will provide additional revenue dollars that we did not have in previous years helping to sustain the program for the future.

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 FKSPCA will utilize our vast social media network and our community media partners to advertise the benefits of the Florida Animal Friend license plate program. We will promote the Florida Animal Friend license plate during peak engagement times on our Facebook page, Instagram, and TikTok accounts which have a combined following of over 84,000 followers. Our organization will send a press release to the 3 main print publications in our target area upon receipt of the grant, along with showcasing an editorial piece on our own website alongside the already present Florida Animal Friend link on our home page. We currently display the Florida Animal Friend promotional materials in our lobby and will add marketing materials regarding the program to each of our adoption packets, spay and neuter clinic discharge packets, as well as display the materials during our weekly wellness clinics.

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