

Grant ID: 2134

**Title of Proposal:** Increased Capacity for Pet Surgeries in Jacksonville

**Agency Type:** Non-Profit

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

**Check Payable To:** Jacksonville Humane Society

## Application Information

### Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** Jacksonville Humane Society

**Website Address:** 8464 BEACH BLVD,

**Person Submitting Proposal:** Lindsay Layendecker

**Position:** Director of Community Partnerships

**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** LLayendecker@jaxhumane.org

**Agency Head:** Denise Deisler

**Agency Head Email:** DDeisler@jaxhumane.org

**Organization Business Address:** 8464 BEACH BLVD, Jacksonville HUmane Society

**City:** Jacksonville

**State:** FL

**Zip:** 32216

**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 904-493-4613

**County:** Duval

**Cell:**

**Fax:**

### Agency Details

**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 05/20/1981

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

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$5,005,750.00

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$5,225,751.00

**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 60 Part Time: 15

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 300

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 450.00

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

We are a previous recipient.

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

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

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

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
183	2010	Spay Neuter And Protect (SNAP)	Denied
327	2012	Jacksonville Community Cat Spay/Neuter Initiative	Funded
1411	2014	Jacksonville Fix Under 6 Spay/Neuter Program	Funded
1640	2016	Fix Before Six 2016	Denied
1708	2017	Pet Safety Net	Denied
1802	2018	Fix Cats & Kittens	Denied
1845	2019	Increasing Capacity for TNR in Jacksonville	Funded
1988	2021	Increasing Feline Surgeries & Decreasing Kittens	Funded
2134	2023	Increased Capacity for Pet Surgeries in Jacksonville	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
Abel Harding	Board Treasurer
Betty & Tom Petway	Honorary Board Member
Cici Anderson	Board Secretary
David Stein	Honorary Board Member
Denise Deisler	CEO
Gary Meeks	Board Member
J. "Walker" & Dolores Barr Weaver	Honorary Board Members
Jay Voelker	Board Member

Kirk Larsen	Honorary Board Member
Kristine Cherek	Honorary Board Member
Linda Stein	Board Member Emeritus
Lise Every	Board Chair
Marc Munago	Board Member
Sean Lueck	Board Vice Chair
Susan Song	Board Member

#### Applicant Qualifications

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

**5405 cats and 3065 dogs were admitted.**

**4896 cats and 2985 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.**

**295 cats and 35 dogs were euthanized.**

**0 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.**

JHS has two spay/neuter programs – one for shelter pets and one for shelter diversion. The traditional model for shelter pets is spay/neutering for dogs and cats who arrive at JHS as either stray or surrendered by their owners. This surgery happens prior to adoption or being reunited with their families. In 2022, JHS altered 5,030 pets via this program. The shelter diversion program is also available for dogs and cats. The largest use of this program is for Kitten Crusaders, which involves community members who find kittens and keep them out of the shelter system by serving as foster parents. JHS provides spay/neuter and vaccines to these kittens while the Kitten Crusader finds them new, loving homes. JHS altered 289 cats via this program in 2022. JHS also provides no-cost spay/neuter to dogs and cats via our Pet Safety Net program for shelter diversion. These are pet owners who call JHS to surrender and by providing this charitable care, JHS is able to keep pets with their loving families. This involves general wellness care and spay/neutering at no cost to the family. JHS altered 110 pets via this program in 2022. Lastly, JHS is able to do high-volume spay/neuter for cats via the Trap-Neuter-Return method when funding is available as a form of shelter diversion and in an effort to control the cat population. In 2022, JHS altered 666 cats via this method. Our spay/neuter programs are under the supervision of our Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Stan Hill, DVM, who has served at JHS for the last ten years. Dr. Hill oversees a team of three veterinarians and 14 veterinary technicians. Dr. Hill works with our Chief of Operations, Lawrence Nicolas, who has worked in animal welfare his entire career, beginning as a kennel tech in the Denver Dumb Friends League to rising through the ranks at Best Friends Animal Society, and most recently prior to JHS, Lawrence served as the Chief Operations Officer at Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League in West Palm Beach.

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

JHS offers no-cost spay/neutering to the public as shelter diversion. For cats and kittens, this is done through our Kitten Crusader program. JHS also offers spay/neutering for owned animals (dogs and cats) via our Pet Safety Net program. Lastly, for community cats, JHS offers free surgery clinics when funding is available for cats via Trap Neuter Return (TNR) programs. In total, this resulted in 666 sterilization surgeries in 2022.

**Number of animals sterilized in that program in the past year:****Cats: 611 Dogs: 55**

## Target Population

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc.):</b>	Jacksonville, Florida
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	954654
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	15
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	289290
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	238664
<b>Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	159109
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	3114
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	3020
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	223
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	288
<b>Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.</b>	
Jacksonville is 875 square miles and was the 9th highest growing city in the United States according to the US Census Bureau report in 2021. Additionally, our city's municipal shelter closed for non-emergency intake in August of 2022 and remained closed through the end of the year. So while intake was lower in 2022 compared to previous years, it is the result of the shelter's closure. For these reasons, we estimate that the population of targeted animals in all categories is higher than estimated above.	
<b>Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:</b>	
JHS believes, based on our community's data, that the most substantial sources of cat overpopulation are due to unfixed community cats. The highest population of kitten intake comes in as "stray" or "found". We have seen a rise in our intake of puppies compared to previous years, the majority being "owner surrender". We believe this may be due to several combined factors, including the pause of s/n services during COVID-19, the economic impact of the recession on our community, and a limited capacity for free spay/neuter surgeries that cannot keep pace with our city's population growth.	
<b>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?</b>	
The Duval Cat Fix program, which is funded by the City of Jacksonville and executed by a local spay/neuter clinic, allows residents to fix up to six pet or feral cats for free while funding lasts. This program begins in January of each year. As of March 1, 2022, this funding was 46% exhausted. This program is open to both pet and feral cats, which reduces the number of surgeries available for community cats without traditional homes. Community cats are the greatest source of kittens entering our shelters. For dogs, the free services available to income-qualifying families are generally exhausted by April. In an effort to alter more cats and reduce the number of kittens entering shelters, the Jacksonville Humane Society (JHS) has sought funding to offer free surgeries for community cats. Thanks to the support of Florida Animal Friend and others, JHS was able to alter 625 additional cats in our community in 2022. Unlike the Duval Cat Fix which is funded by the municipal government each year, JHS's capacity to perform surgeries dependent upon grant funding. A local spay/neuter clinic facilitates the Duval Cat Fix and when funds are gone, the cost is \$40 or more for the trap neuter return (TNR) of a feral cat. This is only available at one clinic, located on the north side of Jacksonville. Jacksonville is the largest city in the continental United States in land area at 875 square miles. Only having one location makes TNR or surgery for a pet a challenge for the average citizen, as it can be upwards of forty-five minutes to drive to this location. It would be two trips over the course of two or three days, and animals are not allowed on public 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:**

**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)?**

With a \$25,000 grant from Florida Animal Friend, the Jacksonville Humane Society will perform 575 spay and neuter surgeries for 475 community cats and kittens and 100 dogs in low-income families. This would be 575 surgeries in total. In doing so, we estimate that we can keep the number of kittens entering our shelters to less than 3,300, which is a 9% decrease over the average of the last three years. Additionally, we predict that we can lower our intake of dogs to less than 3,000, which is an average of 150 fewer dogs in our shelter than the average of the last three years.

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

JHS is unable to offer free TNR or spay/neuter for owned pets to the public without supporting funds. This means that your grant will add existing surgeries to our community as opposed to funding surgeries that would have otherwise occurred. As explained, the options for the public to find convenient and free spay/neuter, both for community cats and for owned pets, in Jacksonville are minimal. With a grant from Florida Animal Friend, JHS can provide 575 surgeries to community cats in Jacksonville with same-day drop-off and pick-up at no cost to our citizens.

## Methods

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

For cats, we will require that they arrive in humane traps and are from Duval County. We consider a driver's license or other ID with an address as sufficient proof. For dogs, we will begin with families who utilize our mobile outreach clinics. We perform bi-monthly vaccination clinics in targeted areas thanks to Petco Love. These areas have been identified by our team as veterinary deserts and are in areas designated as lower-income by a community census. In the last six months, we served 333 pets via these clinics, and 45% were not altered. Our next step will be families who come to our Pet Help Center to seek assistance and families who are referred to us by our partners at Animal Care & Protective Services. Also, we work with several agencies that serve veterans, seniors, and the disabled to act as referral partners for our pet safety net services including a pet food pantry, free behavior help, emergency boarding, etc. We consider a referral from a service partner as an appropriate indication of need.

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

To advertise for community cats, JHS will use our social media channels, email list and website. This has the potential to reach more than 250,000 homes in our area each month. Also, we will work with our media partners, including our local television affiliates of ABC, NBC, PBS, FOX and CBS to showcase the opportunity. For dogs in low-income homes, we will work with clients who utilize our vaccine clinics, our Pet Help Center, or are referred to us by either the city municipal shelter or our other non-profit human service agencies.

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

For community cats, we plan to do this by using a variety of mediums to advertise the program in order to overcome the barriers of illiteracy and cultural hurdles. For dogs in low-income households, we will begin with clients at our vaccine clinic and those who come to seek help at our Pet Help Center. We are able to speak with them directly and make appointments on the spot. We are also flexible with our scheduling and do surgery seven days a week, which allows clients the time to find transportation that will work for them. We also have two veterinary technicians that speak Spanish, and this is the second-most used language in Jacksonville according to our city's data.

**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?**

Surgeries will be performed at the Jacksonville Humane Society with our veterinary medical team, under the supervision of our Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Stan Hill, DVM.

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	\$40.00	\$40.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00

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?
<b>Examination</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Rabies Vaccination if Due</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Other Vaccination if Due</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Pain Medication</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Parasite Medication</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>HW Testing</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> 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:**

A city license is required by Duval County ordinance for residents age 62 or younger. The fee is waived for residents who are disabled or older than age 62.

**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
Animal Care & Protective Services	Animal Care & Protective Services will refer families who are in need of spay/neuter surgery for their dogs and citizens who are caring for unaltered community cats to JHS for this project.
iHeart Media	iHeart Media will broadcast the program information and license plate information on their 8 local stations including the Spanish speaking station.
Jewish Family & Community Services	JFCS is our largest family-services agency offering low-cost and free housing to the low-income families.. They currently refer clients with pets to JHS for Pet Safety Net services including spay/neuter. Please see their attached letter of support.

Name	Level of Involvement
NBC/ABC	Our local NBC/ABC television news affiliate, First Coast News, will help promote the program and the license plate.
Sulzbacher	Sulzbacher is our largest local human-services agency offering low-cost and free housing to the homeless, along with medical care. They currently refer clients with pets to JHS for Pet Safety Net services including spay/neuter.

## Other Information

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

The Jacksonville Humane Society has been diligently working to solve the problem of rising kitten intake in our shelters. Your grant will allow us to sterilize an additional 575 unaltered, free-roaming cats in our community, which is the biggest source of kittens in our community. According to the Florida Animal Friend website, "in seven years, one female cat and her offspring can produce an incredible 370,000 kittens...and one unaltered female dog and her offspring can produce 67,000 puppies in only six years." If we assume that half (287) of the 575 cats are female, we estimate that we can prevent the births of more than 4,800 kittens. Also, if half (50) of the 100 dogs are female, we estimate we can prevent the birth of more than 1,000 puppies. This is what we will make possible with your support.

## Budget

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

**Cats:** 575 **Dogs:** 100

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

**Average cost/surgery projected:** \$38.00

### **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 only other costs that would be incurred are a microchip and the fee for the rabies city license. Those are currently covered by another funder, the Jessie Ball duPont Fund.

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

JHS partners with Petco Love, the Jessie Ball duPont Fund and a private donor to run our mobile vaccine clinics. It is through these clinics that we are able to connect with low-income families who have pets in need of spay/neuter.

### **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:** 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.**

JHS has a dynamic development team that works to fundraise a \$5.5 million budget every year. JHS is continuously seeking grants and while we seek funding opportunities for all aspects of our mission. JHS successfully finished a \$17 million capital campaign and we have successfully converted campaign donors into annual donors through our Leadership Giving Society. Additionally, JHS has seen great fundraising success via digital campaigns that raised an additional \$450,000 during 2022 and has planned to continue these efforts into 2023. JHS annually seeks more than \$1 million in grant funding each year and has a 75% success rate. We have a thriving corporate partnership program, with 26 partners donating more than \$500,000 annually.

## 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.**

JHS will promote and publicize the Florida Animal Friend license plate in the following ways: - Press Release to 52 local media contacts - Segment on "First Coast Living" - ABC/NBC television news affiliate - Segment on "River City Live" - PBS/CW television news affiliate - Blog on our website that reaches 1 million viewers annually - Year-long promotion on the scrolling logo dash on our website (this appears on every page of our website) - Posts on our social media channels reaching more than 150,000 online followers - Brochures (if available) will be placed on our front counter in the Adoption Center, which sees close to 4,000 visitors monthly JHS is also open to any ideas and suggestions from Florida Animal Friend.

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

**3**