

Grant ID: 2153

**Title of Proposal:** Fix it Forward, Levy and Surrounding Counties

**Agency Type:** Non-Profit

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

**Check Payable To:** Rapsallion to the Rescue

## Application Information

### Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** Rapsallion to the Rescue

**Website Address:** rapsalliontotherescue.org

**Person Submitting Proposal:** Sarah Podobinski

**Position:** Vice President

**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** podobinski.s@gmail.com

**Agency Head:** Virginia Lynn Niles-Conderman

**Agency Head Email:** rapsalliontotherescue@yahoo.com

**Organization Business Address:** 4850 SE 212th Courth

**City:** Morriston

**State:** FL

**Zip:** 32668

**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 352-258-3419

**County:** Levy

**Cell:** 352-359-5793

**Fax:**

### Agency Details

**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 01/18/2013

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

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$21,565.61

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$28,278.91

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

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 0

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 45.00

**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Have received the FAF grant previously and we also partner with other organization that also have received the FAF grant

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

**Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 3 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 0

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1705	2017	Help Fix Levy and Surrounding Counties Unwanted Pet Population	Funded
1841	2019	Fix it Forward - Levy and Surrounding Counties	Funded
1997	2021	Fix It Forward, Levy and Surrounding Counties	Funded
2153	2023	Fix it Forward, Levy and Surrounding Counties	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 Food bank, financial assista

**List the current board of directors of your nonprofit organization (Not required of governmental agency):**

Name	Title
Deborah Pereja-Penton	Officer
Kim Lake	Officer
Sarah Podobinski	Vice President
Virginia Lynn Niles-Condermann	President
William Condermann	Treasurer

**Applicant Qualifications**

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

- 1 cats and 6 dogs were admitted.**
- 1 cats and 4 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.**
- 0 cats and 3 dogs were euthanized.**
- 1 cats and 6 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.**

Sarah Podobinski, our vice president heads up our spay neuter initiatives. She has a bachelor's in business and has lived in our community for almost her entire life. She has established and maintained trusted relationships with the community and other rescue organizations. Our board also has many years of combined experience in business and working with the public

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

Rapsallion currently provides spay/neuter services to community members on an as needed basis. We will reach out to people who are trying to rehome their animals, give away puppies, etc and offer them assistance. We also have people who contact us looking to get their animals S/N.

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

**Cats:** 8 **Dogs:** 320

Target Population

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc.):</b>	Levy and surrounding rural counties
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	43337
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	19.2
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	13133
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	10835
<b>Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	7223
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	715
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	736
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	244
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	68

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

Levy County also has 2 city managed facilities. These are small shelters but the numbers reported are only from the county facility, therefore the numbers are essentially higher. One of the city shelters does not provide adoptions. They are either claimed by owners or euthanized.

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

Levy County does not have any leash or containment ordinances. Unfortunately, given the ruralness of our area, a lot of animals are kept outside and end up free roaming due to

lack of containment. Residents are mostly low income and cannot afford proper containment or vetting for their animals. Resulting in unaltered animals reproducing and increasing the amount of strays and ultimately increasing the amount of animals that come into animal control.

**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?**

Levy County does have several private practices however, due to it being such a low income area, most cannot afford the cost of S/N at a private practice. Considering typically the cost is based on weight, a lot of the larger dogs have incredibly high costs. Our county does not have a permanent spay neuter clinic. Levy Animal Services does offer low cost services to those on assistance but that eliminates those families who may not qualify for assistance but also do not have \$500 to put towards a spay surgery.

**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)?**

Our goal is provide free spay neuter services to families who may otherwise not be able to afford it. We wish to continue to make an impact on the homeless pet population in our area but reducing the amount of unwanted litters, free roaming animals and to help families keep their animals in their home. Spay/neuter helps reduce certain unwanted behaviors making animals more manageable for some.

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

The Florida Animal Friend Grant will help us expand our current spay /neuter services, reducing the amount of unaltered pets. On average, we are able to provide services to 50-75 people, costing between \$70-100 per animal. There are services available for people who are on government assistance but we feel this excludes the middle class (working poor), people who cannot get assistance but also cannot afford to pay a private vet for spay neuter services. We would like to reach families across all ranges.

## Methods

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

Any mixed breed dog that is or will be over 40 pounds.

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

RttR has a large social media presence and strong relationships with numerous local business, rescues and media outlets that allow us to advertise. In our area we also rely a lot on word of mouth since many residents do not have access to computers or internet. We also use various other media sources such as print, radio and television.

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

RttR has volunteers of all ethnicities, income and age levels and many different backgrounds. Having such a diverse group, it allows us to reach out to many different subsets of people and to be able to communicate across various boundaries.

**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.**

If the animals are unable to be transported by their owners, we will make arrangements. We have a large network of volunteers experienced in handling dogs and transporting. We always use a crate to secure the animal during transport as well as a slip leash to ensure their safety in and out of the vehicle. Most of our volunteers have SUVs able to accommodate crates. If possible and if the transporter is comfortable, we often will ask the owner to accompany us on the trip so they will essentially be responsible for handling their animals.

**Veterinary Services**

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

Use of a high volume spay neuter clinic that we have partnered with in the past.

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
Vocal-Voices of Change Animal League	6393 SW 52nd Street	Ocala	FL	34474	352-289-0800	<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="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>

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:**

Items above are required but at no cost to the client. RttR will cover the cost of Rabies (\$12.00) that is required by the clinic. The optional items are at cost to the client and are based on the fee schedule at the clinic.

**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
98.5 KTK radio	advertising
Bronson Ace Hardware	advertising

Name	Level of Involvement
Faithful Friends Pet Rescue	referrals
Levy County Animal Services	referrals
Paws Closet Thrift Store	advertising
Vocal-Voices of Change Animal League	advertising and referrals

## Other Information

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

RttR will do mass outreach to Levy and surrounding county residents with information regarding our spay/neuter services provided by FAF. We target low to middle income families and those who may be S/N resistant. We hope our efforts to provide free services to our area help to take the strain off of our local shelters and rescues.

## Budget

**Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:**

**Cats:** 0 **Dogs:** 313

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

**Average cost/surgery projected:** \$80.00

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

RttR will cover the required rabies vaccine out of pocket in order to allocate more funding to S/N services. This allows the entire service to be provided at no cost to the client. Any add on services that are not required, at the owners expense.

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

We allocated a portion of our previous years funding to offset the cost of rabies. Plus we do additional funding throughout the year.

**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:** 07/29/23

### 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.**

We are active participants in several local area events where we sell handmade pet items to help generate income throughout the year. We will also have a network private and corporate donors for donations and sponsorship. RttR also hosts several fundraising events throughout the year such as dinners, silent auctions and yard sales. We also apply to several other spay/neuter grants when they are available.

## 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.**

**We always keep a running banner up on our social media sites. We pass out FAF plate information during events. Some of the local business we partner keep information on their counter for customers to take.**

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

**3**