

Grant ID: 2255

**Title of Proposal:** Community Outreach Spay/Neuter Program

**Agency Type:** Non-Profit

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

**Check Payable To:** Animal Welfare Society of South Florida

## Application Information

### Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** Animal Welfare Society of South Florida

**Website Address:** www.awsfl.com

**Person Submitting Proposal:** Renee Bleemer

**Position:** Board President

**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** renee@awsfl.com

**Agency Head:** Renee Bleemer

**Agency Head Email:** renee@awsfl.com

**Organization Business Address:** 2601 SW 27th Avenue

**City:** Miami

**State:** Florida

**Zip:** 33133

**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 305-858-3501

**County:** Miami Dade

**Cell:**

**Fax:**

### Agency Details

**EIN:** 59-1557645

**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 01/01/1980

**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/23 **End:** 12/31/23

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$1,804,414.24

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$1,832,582.02

**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 14 Part Time: 2

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 10

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 60.00

**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Our Board President was made aware of the grant opportunity when she purchased her first FAF license plate in 2010.

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

**Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2016,2018,2020,2022 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2015

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

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1474	2015	Community Outreach	Denied (not completed)
1682	2016	Community Outreach	Funded
1801	2018	Community Outreach	Funded
1937	2020	Community Outreach Spay/Neuter Program	Funded
2076	2022	Community Outreach Spay/Neuter P	Funded
2255	2024	Community Outreach Spay/Neuter Program	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
BARBARA WEEKS	SECRETARY
BETSY PEREZ	DIRECTOR
CYNDEE LEVY ANGULO	DIRECTOR
EMILY TOTINO	VICE-PRESIDENT
JANET HORWITZ	DIRECTOR
JEFFREY FLANAGAN	INTERIM TREASURER
NICK STUDDS	DIRECTOR
RENEE BLEEMER	BOARD PRESIDENT
VICTORIA MOORE	DIRECTOR

**Applicant Qualifications**

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

**26 cats and 3 dogs were admitted.**

**26 cats and 3 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.**

**0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.**

**26 cats and 3 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.**

Animal Welfare Society of South Florida(AWS) was founded in 1972 as a low cost spay/neuter clinic. Over the next 50 years, it grew into a full-service hospital. Our veterinary staff consists of five part-time doctors along with ten veterinary technicians, two pharmacy/lab technicians, two receptionists and a hospital manager. Our active client listing is over 32,000 with an average daily client count of 18 per day. We have digital radiograph equipment and in clinic blood processing capability. Our veterinarians have a total of forty years experience, with our senior vet Dr. Joy Carter overseeing the program. Our hospital is staffed 24/7 with a Vet tech in ICU. AWS is open six days a week and perform spay/neuter surgeries Monday-Friday. If needed, we perform surgeries on Saturdays.

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

Our Community Outreach Spay/Neuter program is in place and completely funded by donations or grants. This spay/neuter program is for owned cats and dogs.

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

**Cats: 76 Dogs: 34**

### Target Population

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc. Be as specific as possible.):</b>	Miami
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	442,241
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	20
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	134013
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	110561
<b>Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	73707
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	100
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	100
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	100
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	100

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

Our target population is not significantly different than above.

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

Unfortunately, the pet overpopulation crisis in Miami-Dade County is at a all-time high. Throughout the county there are many impoverished areas with some well meaning but low income residents. There also seems to be a lack of understanding regarding the importance of spay/neuter. Due to the fact we provide low cost veterinary care in our animal hospital, we know there is need for accessible and free sterilization among the owned pets we treat.

**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?**

Miami-Dade County Animal Services offers free spays/neuters to pet owners as does the Humane Society of Greater Miami. However, despite this collective effort, the demand is still high for low/no cost spay/neuter services.

**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. EAR-TIPPING IS REQUIRED**  **Other**

## Objectives

**What do you hope to accomplish with these funds (objectives should be specific and quantifiable)?**

With the FAF funds, it is our hope to significantly add to our Community Outreach Spay/Neuter program. Our goal is to provide 275 sterilization surgeries for cats and 145 sterilizations for dogs belonging to low -income or financially constrained qualified residents of Miami. We know by spaying and neutering we will help reduce the number of unwanted litters adding to the overpopulation crisis overwhelming Miami Dade County.

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

This grant will allow us increase surgeries above the baseline which is currently 100 for cats and 55 for dogs. We know there are both AWS clients and Miami residents that due to financial issues, are unable to obtain the spay or neuter surgery for their pets.

## Methods

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

The criteria for eligibility for our program will be determined upon the pet owner providing proof of financial constraint (U.S. Poverty guidelines) or participation in government assisted programs including Medicaid, Reemployment Assistance, Aid for Dependent Children, Jackson Memorial Hospital Clinic Cards.

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

Advertising will be promoted in Spanish, English and Creole at our hospital, social media, local pet friendly events, City of Miami NET (Neighborhood Enhancement Team and hopefully with local TV Animal Advocate programs.

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

We will address promotional barriers by having all materials about the program prepared in English, Spanish and Creole. Person to person contact through community outreach will cover illiteracy concerns. The pet owners will have to provide their own transportation.

**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.**

N/A

Veterinary Services

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

At Animal Welfare Society of South Florida, we have five part-time veterinarians along with ten veterinary technicians on staff to meet the surgical demands of the program.

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	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$90.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$90.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$130.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$130.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$160.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$160.00"/>

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

**\* = REQUIRED by grant**

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

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

AWS will absorb costs of any testing, vaccines or parasite medication, especially if our doctors feel it is necessary to check if a cat or dog is healthy enough to undergo anesthesia. All FAF funds go directly to the surgery.

**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
A Way for a Stray	A Way for a Stray is dedicated to helping people and their pets in some of the poorest areas of Miami. With their help, we will be able to promote our spay/neuter program through their ability to literally knock on doors to educate, motivate and encourage pet owners to spay and neuter.

## Other Information

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

A valuable resource to South Florida for over 50 years, Animal Welfare Society has helped thousands of pets and their owners with our low cost, full service veterinary care. Because the target population includes the people we see every day, we know the community, their financial hardships and understand the need for free sterilization. The need continues to be great and now more than ever with the still increasing inflation and escalating cost of living in Miami and its financial impact on so many pet owners. The additional funds will allow us to continue and expand this mission. We are seeing more and more loving pet owners, now struggling to make ends meet with rising prices on everything from gas to rent to food. Many are having difficulty buying pet food so spaying or neutering is not a priority. In closing, we are confident this grant will help us help perform these vital sterilizations to the struggling families along with those in the neighborhoods we wish to target.

## Budget

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

**Cats:** 275    **Dogs:** 145

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

**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.):**

AWS staff veterinarians will be paid out of the annual budget. Antibiotics, medical supplies (including syringes, e-collars) ear tipping, testing, vaccines (other than rabies) and basic examinations will be included.

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

AWS is fortunate, two of larger supporters, are committed to supporting our spay/neuter program and we will use a portion of their donations when needed.

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

70%

## Timeline

**PROJECTS CANNOT BEGIN UNTIL GRANT FUNDS ARE RECEIVED, usually before September 1.**

**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:** 08/01/24/    **Projected end date:** 07/31/25

### **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.**

AWS began as a spay/neuter clinic in 1972 and continues to be committed to solving the pet overpopulation crisis in Miami-Dade County. We budgeted \$6,000 for the first six months of 2024 to maintain our Community Outreach Spay/Neuter Program. Donations and fundraisers fuel this program. AWS is adding a dedicated Development Manager who will assist in the fulfillment of this program.

## 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.**

**Regardless of whether we are an active recipient of a generous grant from Florida Animal Friend, AWS never stops promoting the sale of FAF Spay/Neuter License plates. We continue postings on our social media and at all our events/community gatherings. We proudly and prominently display FAF printed material in our lobby/exam rooms and FAF is included in AWS printed material as well.**

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

**5**