

Grant ID: 2270

Title of Proposal: Candy's Cats, Inc.

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$10,000.00

Check Payable To: Candy's Cats, Inc.

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Candy's Cats, Inc.

Website Address: <https://www.candyscats.org/>

Person Submitting Proposal: Ishan Sharma

Position: Volunteer Grant Writer

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: ishan@candyscats.org

Agency Head: Candace Sullivan

Agency Head Email: candy@candyscats.org

Organization Business Address: 307 West Main Street

City: Apopka

State: Florida

Zip: 32712

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 407-760-2052

County: Orange

Cell:

Fax:

Agency Details

EIN: 32-015744

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 06/06/2005

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$148,977.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$145,675.00

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

Number of Active Volunteers: 128

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 78.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Our charity has been operative for nearly 20 years and we are expanding into more TNVR as funds are available. We have a committed grant writer volunteer that identified this program as a potential source for funding.

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: N/A Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2019

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1860	2019	Candy's Cats TNR Program 2019	Denied
2270	2024	Candy's Cats, Inc.	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
Danyel Sullivan-Marrero	Secretary
Deborah Hoch	Treasurer
Justin DaRoza	President
Kasi Lancaster	Vice President

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

370 cats and 0 dogs were admitted.

354 cats and 0 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.

1 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

635 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.

Candy's Cats is fortunate to have a dedicated team of experienced volunteers who tirelessly drive the organization forward. For nearly two decades, we have remained steadfast in our mission to save the lives of kittens and cats, thanks to the unwavering dedication of hundreds of volunteers, fosters, and supporters. Our efforts have been sustained by a combination of fundraising endeavors, community donations, and educational initiatives, supported by the commitment of our invaluable trappers and veterinary collaborators. Leading our TNVR program is Deborah Hoch, who brings a wealth of expertise and passion to the role. As the Treasurer of Candy's Cats and a seasoned accountant with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and a Master's in Business Administration, Deborah's leadership is grounded in a deep understanding of both financial management and animal welfare. With 15 years of involvement in feline rescue, including the management of two cat colonies for a decade, Deborah's hands-on experience underscores her dedication to the cause. Her exemplary management of the 2023 grant funds, which facilitated the sterilization of 222 felines, speaks volumes about her capability and commitment to our mission.

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

We utilize veterinarians in our area to sterilize cats and kittens for adoptions and TNVR.

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

Cats: 260 **Dogs:** 0

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc. Be as specific as possible.):	Apopka 32712 32703, Winter Garden 34787, Ocoee 34761 Florida
Total human population in target area:	239,930
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	9.9%
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	72707
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	59983
Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	39989
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	6346
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	N/A
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	374
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	N/A
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.	N/A

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

Uncontrolled breeding due to unaltered cats roaming freely contributes significantly to overpopulation. Cats are able to reproduce at a very young age (four months old) and have multiple breeding cycles, especially in spring as the days become longer. Without spaying and neutering efforts, their numbers can quickly spiral out of control. Cats that are abandoned or allowed to roam freely can breed with each other and contribute to the stray population. These cats often lack proper care and can reproduce unchecked, exacerbating the overpopulation problem. Many people may not fully understand the importance of spaying and neutering their pets or the consequences of allowing their cats to breed freely. Education and awareness campaigns are crucial in addressing this aspect of the problem. For some communities, especially those with limited resources, access to affordable veterinary care for spaying and neutering may be scarce. This can hinder efforts to control cat overpopulation. Addressing these sources requires a multifaceted approach, including widespread spaying and neutering programs, adoption initiatives, community outreach and education, and support for accessible veterinary services.

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?

Affordability is and has been an issue. Our organization provides TNVR services to the Apopka, Ocoee and Winter Garden Florida areas.

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)?

We collaborate with independent trappers to deliver TNVR services in targeted areas, aiming to curtail the stray feline population and alleviate unnecessary suffering. Our commitment to these local efforts remains steadfast. In 2023, Candy's Cats received a grant which enabled the sterilization of 222 felines. A significant portion of our funding, sourced from donations and adoption fees, is allocated to the medical and foster care needs of adoptable cats. Grants provide us with the vital resources to partner with trappers in addressing the issue of feral cat populations.

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

It's important to note that sterilizing a single female cat can prevent her and her progeny from producing approximately 5,000 kittens over a span of seven years. With additional funding, we can conduct TNVR for approximately 22 cats per \$1,000, effectively averting the birth of around 110,000 stray cats within the same time frame. A donation of ten thousand dollars would enable Candy's Cats to perform TNVR procedures on 220 felines, potentially preventing a staggering 1.1 million preventable kitten births. Our organization has funds set aside for TNVR purposes, however, those funds are only able to cover roughly 40 cats without any grant funds. This amount is much less impactful in terms of overpopulation of cats than we would be able to achieve with grant funding.

Methods

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

As a TNVR program, we will use the funds to sterilize only free-roaming cats and kittens in the described zip codes.

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

We maintain close collaboration with seasoned, independent trappers, ensuring effective communication and coordination. Upon availability of funds, we promptly notify these

trappers individually. The prospect of funding often garners enthusiastic participation from trappers who are keen to collaborate with Candy's Cats.

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

The independent trappers in our community play a crucial role in facilitating transportation to and from the veterinary offices for the cats. At present, we are fortunate not to encounter any significant obstacles aside from the need for additional funding.

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.

The independent trappers utilize their privately owned vehicles to transport the cats, ensuring their safety within humane animal traps. These trappers are experienced and seasoned, and Candy's Cats does not currently need to engage in training, nor do we provide liability releases in this process.

Veterinary Services

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

We work with multiple veterinary clinics to perform spay and neuter surgeries. We have contacted them to inform them about our application for this grant, and have letters from both veterinary offices stating that they are willing to continue working with us for TNVR services.

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
Central Florida Community Pet Clinic	85 S. Charles Richard Beall Blvd. Suite A	DeBary	Florida	32713	386-320-0503	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Spay N'Save	988 N Ronald Reagan Blvd.	Longwood	Florida	32750	407-920-4894	<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="\$45.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>

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 type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" 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 type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
HW Testing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Feline Leuk/FIV	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$30.00"/>
County License	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
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 type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$20.00"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

*** = 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:

N/A

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
Independent trappers	Set traps, take cats to the vet and return to the area that the animal was trapped.
Veterinarians	Central Florida Community Pet Clinic, Spay N' Save: provide affordable sterilization, ear tipping, pain meds, and Rabies vaccinations.

Other Information

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

With consistent weekly appointments at affordable veterinary clinics, Candy Sullivan facilitates access for trappers to bring in cats for Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return (TNVR) procedures. This strategic collaboration with veterinarians and trappers ensures a streamlined process for spaying and neutering cats and kittens, contributing significantly to our organization's mission of controlling the feline population and promoting responsible pet ownership. A grant would amplify our efforts by providing crucial financial support for these operations, enabling us to expand outreach, increase the number of spay/neuter procedures performed, and ultimately make a greater impact on the welfare of community cats.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 222 **Dogs:** 0

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$10,000.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$46.00

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

Our organization does not expect any additional expenses beyond the \$45 per cat fee, but any excluded expenses incurred will be covered by our donations, fundraisers, and the VMX conference proceeds.

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

As a well established charity, we have various sources of revenue raised throughout the year, portions of which are earmarked specifically for TNVR purposes. This includes: * Online auctions of donated items and gift baskets * Fundraisers at various restaurants in our area (Percentage of sales are donated to CCI) * Adoption Fees * Direct donations from the community * The Orlando Veterinarian (VMX) conference annually providing kittens for conference guests to interact with.

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

83%

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: 09/01/24/ **Projected end date:** 08/31/25

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.**

In our ongoing commitment to extend TNVR services within the local community, we will earmark a portion of our donations and fundraising endeavors specifically for this program. Additionally, we will continue applying for TNVR grants. We firmly believe that these concerted efforts play a pivotal role in sparing thousands of cats and kittens from avoidable suffering.

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 distribute a monthly newsletter at various events, including fundraisers, adoption events at PetSmart in Winter Garden, and the VMX annual conference. In this newsletter, we highlight the positive impact of our work and will advertise the specialty license plate, detailing how the proceeds contribute to our efforts. Additionally, our dedicated social media coordinator actively engages on platforms such as Facebook (Meta), Instagram, and Nextdoor, further amplifying awareness about our cause, and can begin advertising the license plate on those platforms.

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

Unknown