

Grant ID: 2235

Title of Proposal: Spay A Stray Nassau

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00

Check Payable To: Cats Angels Inc. SPCA

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Cats Angels Inc. SPCA

Website Address: www.catsangels.org

Person Submitting Proposal: Sherry Merritt

Position: Executive Director

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: sherry.catsangels@gmail.com

Agency Head: Sherry Merritt

Agency Head Email: sherry.catsangels@gmail.com

Organization Business Address: 709 S. 8th

City: Fernandina

State: FL

Zip: 32034

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 904-321-2267

County: Nassau

Cell: 904-673-0892

Fax:

Agency Details

EIN: 593724894

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 05/08/2006

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$362,920.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$278,729.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 1 Part Time: 3

Number of Active Volunteers: 34

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 121.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? First Coast Nomore Homeless Pets

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 4 Year(s) denied/incomplete:

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
175	2010	TNR/SPAY NASSAU	Denied
261	2011	Spay Nassau	Funded
1908	2020	SPAY NASSAU	Funded
2046	2022	SPAY THEM ALL	Funded
2235	2024	Spay A Stray Nassau	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

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

Name	Title
Becky Delp	Director
Bonnie Howell	Director
Gail Cook	Secretary
Pat Glassbrenner	Director
Sherry Merritt	President

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

155 cats and 1 dogs were admitted.

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

0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.
1011 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.

We have a transport spay/neuter program that targets TNR for cats and lower costs spay/neuter services for low-income folks. We have developed a website this year for the public to fill out spay/neuter requests and we have a phone number for folks to call for spay/neuter help. We have trained volunteers and staff to schedule services. We have successfully established to run smooth for the past 7 years and we increase our spay/neuter services each year!

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 currently have a very successful spay/neuter program. This year we launched a new website (www.catsangels.org) for people to fill out information and requests for spay/neuter services and TNR. We also purchased a new van to help transport and TNR and pet cats. Our program has trained staff and volunteers that have ran the program successfully over the past 7 years. This involves returning phone call, follow ups, scheduling, trapping education, setting up and caring for TNR cats also.

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

Cats: 1011 **Dogs:** 1

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc. Be as specific as possible.):	Yulee, Briceville, Callahan, Fernandina, Hilliard
Total human population in target area:	97,899
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	6.8
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	29667
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	24475
Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	16317
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	N/A
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)	N/A
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.	
Nassau County is one of the fastest-growing counties in the state of Florida. We just built a new city and school called Wildlight.	

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

Currently, we have a lot of rural areas in Nassau County with no access to veterinary services and funding.

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?

7 veterinary clinics in Nassau County. Most charge \$300-\$500 per pet for spay/neuter services. If you have 5 stray cats that you are feeding, it would cost you 1,000 to neuter them. Also, most clinics don't accept feral cats and only do 3 to 4 surgeries a day.

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)?

Our goal is to spay/neuter 1,500 cats in our community. This would help us achieve our overall goal of spay/neutering over 1,000 cats this year. We also want to continue to keep our shelters in Nassau stay no-kill. Knowing that we will have more than 35,000 new homes built soon, we want to increase our spay/neuter volume to keep up with the growth.

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

Last year, we increased our spay/neuter program from 800 cats to 1000 cats. If we were granted more funding, we could help over 1,500 cats in community.

Methods

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

The locations to be serviced by this grant are for vicinities in the Northeast of Nassau County, Hilliard, Callahan, Briceville, and one area in Fernandina Beach located off Old Nassauville Rd. The target areas are rural residential communities with some commercial development. The targeted areas include predominantly low-income households that do not have access to affordable spay/neuter support from any provider other than Cats Angels, Inc. Also, the number of requests received by Cats Angels from residents and business owners in these areas requesting spay/neuter control of feral and community cat populations.

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

We will advertise on social media, our website, and local newspapers. Also, we will make flyers for the program and post these in our community(Animal services, FCNHP, Humane Society, Grocery Stores, and food banks).

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

We provide traps, transportation, carriers, and food. We also provide written material in Spanish

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.

Cats Angels has a dedicated van that is used in trapping and transporting cats from the trapping site to surgery. We have each owner sign a liability waver when we transport their cats. Cats Angels offers volunteer trapping classes to the public, volunteers, and animal control. Cats Angels also has a dedicated room that is specifically designed with climate control to care for cats pre and post surgery recovery.

Veterinary Services

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

First Coast No more Homless Pets reserves every Wednesday for us to bring in 25 or more animals in for spay/neuter services. We also have a voucher program for people to bring the animals in at their convenience.

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
First Coast Nomore Homeless Pets	6817 Norwood Ave	Jacksonville	Fl	32208	904-425-0005	<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="\$10.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$65.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$75.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$10.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$65.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$75.00"/>
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 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*** 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:

We will pay for antibiotics or any medical procedure that is needed for the kitty.

Is this a voucher program? Yes

If so, how will you assure utilization of the program?

If people need a voucher, we verify by checking their ID to make sure they are residents in Nassau County. We also transport cats each week to Jacksonville.

For your voucher program, how have you determined the capacity of the veterinarians listed above to handle the projected capacity?

People can use the vouchers for TNVR for cats. They have a limit of 6 cats that they can take per day to FCNMHP.

Will you have the ability to report the number of vouchers issued and the number redeemed for spay/neuter surgeries?

Yes. We get a monthly total from FCNMHP each month for the voucher program.

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
Meals On Wheels	Helping clients get their cats fixed that are receiving food with meals on wheels

Name	Level of Involvement
Nassau County Animal Services	Transport cats to FCNMHP, Refer owners to call us with a large volume of cats
Nassau Humane Society	Referral

Other Information

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

We are an organization that has been in existence for 22 years and has helped spay/neuter 20,000 cats. We take TNR and low-cost spay/neuter seriously. Our call volume consists of 25 to 30 people calling each week for spay/neuter each week. Once the need is established, we have a team of trained volunteers that help trap the cats and bring them to Cats Angels. If the cats are pets, we verify their low-income eligibility. Next, we have a scheduled dedicated day that we bring them to First Coast No More Homeless Pets in our dedicated van. Lastly, once they are spay/neutered the feral cats recover at Cats Angels before being released.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 425 **Dogs:** 0

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$59.00

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

antibiotics will be paid by cats angels. If the cat needs special surgery, Cats Angels will cover the cost. Other vaccines will be the responsibility of the owner.

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

We have a thrift store that funds our programs and we have 2 fundraisers throughout the year to supplement our costs

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

40%

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: 10/31/24/ **Projected end date:** 10/30/25

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.**

We have two big fundraisers each year and together they raise about \$11,000. We have a thrift store that generates about half of our funding each year. We also have quarterly newsletters, and an end of year appeal letter that generates the remainder of our budget.

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 promote the sale of the license plate grant by publishing the positive benefits of purchasing a license plate and how it helps support spay/neuter in our community and around the state of Florida. We share this information in our newsletter that we mail out to over 700 supporters. We write articles and send to the newspaper about the grant and license plates. We also publish info on social media such as facebook.

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

25