

Grant ID: 2263

Title of Proposal: Community Cat S/N Grant

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$15,000.00

Check Payable To: Humane Society of Sarasota County

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Humane Society of Sarasota County

Website Address: www.hssc.org

Person Submitting Proposal: Anna Gonce

Position: Executive Director

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: agonce@hssc.org

Agency Head: Anna Gonce

Agency Head Email: agonce@hssc.org

Organization Business Address: 2331 15th St

City: Sarasota

State: FL

Zip: 34237

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 941-955-4131

County: Sarasota

Cell: 303-513-9263

Fax:

Agency Details

EIN: 59-6014943

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 01/05/1980

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$5,296,493.97

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$5,307,857.36

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 52 Part Time: 2

Number of Active Volunteers: 450

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 450.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? HSSC is a previous recipient of a FAF grant.

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

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 2022 Year(s) denied/incomplete: none

Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
2084	2022	HSSC Targeted S/N Grant For Cats	Funded
2263	2024	Community Cat S/N Grant	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
Caryn Wilbraham	Secretary
Janet Boyden	President
Jennifer Poppen	Vice President
Michael Cervone	Treasurer

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

1312 cats and 987 dogs were admitted.

1247 cats and 958 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.

46 cats and 21 dogs were euthanized.

1600 cats and 900 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.

Founded in 1952, the Humane Society of Sarasota County (HSSC) is Sarasota’s oldest animal welfare organization. In 2009, HSSC became a no-kill shelter and in 2021 we completed a 38,000 sq. ft. new facility that doubled our capacity for care. At the heart of our mission is the core belief that every animal is cared for and loved. Since 2016, HSSC has operated a public Animal Clinic that provides affordable wellness and preventative veterinary care to the community. HSSC employs 4 fulltime Florida licensed DVMs that provided for the veterinary care of animals in our shelter as well as treat owned animals. Additionally, HSSC offers veterinary services to local TNVR groups, rescues and shelters. Veterinary services offered include wellness care and vaccines, spay/neuter, geriatric care, heartworm treatment, laser therapy, endoscopy, dentistry, in-house diagnostics and radiographs, and general surgery. At our main campus, HSSC has a shelter medical wing, with surgery suite and dental island, that services our shelter animals and offers drop off service for TNVR groups, shelters and rescues. Separately, our public Animal Clinic has its own surgery suite, exam rooms, and dental island for owned pets.

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

HSSC offers low cost s/n services to the public and when funding is available we offer no cost s/n services to TNVR groups, shelters and rescues. Below, HSSC is providing the total number of community TNVR surgeries performed by our DVMS in 2023. Cats and dogs combined, owned and shelter, HSSC performed more than 3,300 spay/neuter surgeries in 2023.

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

Cats: 710 **Dogs:**

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc. Be as specific as possible.):	All Sarasota County Zip Codes
Total human population in target area:	469,013
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	8.5%
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	142126
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	117254
Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	78169
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1281
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1258
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	218
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	198

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:

The majority of their cat intakes are the result of nuisance complaints from too many outdoor cats in residential areas. Targeted s/n of outdoor community cats would prevent many of these nuisance complaints and result in a reduction of unnecessary euthanasia's from being performed.

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?

There are very limited agencies offering spay neuter surgeries for community cats in Sarasota County. The Animal rescue Coalition performs limited procedures on community cats due to their offering spay neuter procedures to owned cats located both in Sarasota and Manatee Counties.

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)?

The target goal is 300 sterilizations of community cats in Sarasota County to prevent them from being trapped, housed at the municipal shelter and euthanized at the end of their stray hold period. Sarasota County Animal Services euthanized over 200 cats in FY2023 due to their being unadoptable due to behavior and temperament.

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

We had increased our goal to perform 1000 spay and neuter procedures based on our ability in 2023 to complete 700 community cat procedures at the shelter medical dept.

Methods

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

Cats being admitted into the program using grant funds will be pre-screened by community cat organizations alongside Sarasota County Animal Services data base and activity reports.

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

HSSC has an inhouse Marketing Dept that promotes all of our programs & services. We will develop Marketing materials specifically for this grant, to include: Social media ad buys Social media promotion Radio promotion Press release and local media outreach Email outreach Website promotion Flyers Posters Advertising

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

HSSC already offers a variety of programs to under-served members of our community. Our Pet Food Pantry, for example. We have 70 years of experience successfully addressing barriers to programs

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 community cats will be transported in humane traps using Animal Control Vehicles, trapping organizations vehicles and The Humane Society of Sarasota County marked vehicles.

Veterinary Services

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

HSSC will provide services using our own team of employed DVMs who are high quality, high volume s/n surgeons.

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	\$50.00	\$50.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$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 checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$20.00
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 type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$15.00
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 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:

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
Feline Friends	High level of involvement.
Sarasota County Animal Services	High level of involvement.
Venice Cat Coalition	High level of involvement.

Other Information

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

HSSC reserves two days per week to perform targeted community cat spay and neuter procedures in our shelter medical wing.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 300 **Dogs:** 0

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$15,000.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$50.00

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

n/a

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

n/a

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

100

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:** 09/01/25

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.**

Without the grant funds, HSSC would still offer low cost community cat s/n services in Sarasota County. We would not, however, be able to offer them at no cost.

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.**

A grant would award Florida Animal Friend "Annual Partner" status for the year. All HSSC Annual Partners receive the following benefits: • Logo and website link on HSSC's homepage (500,000+ unique views per year) and partner webpage • Tagged posts on HSSC's Facebook (23,000+ followers) and Instagram (5,200+ followers) pages • Inclusion in HSSC's Annual Impact Report (published in January) • Logo on partner signage in HSSC lobby (13,000+ visitors each year) • Spotlight in our "Pawsitive Press" eNewsletter (20,000+ subscribers) • Special "HSSC Partner" digital logo and door decal for your use • Submission to Sarasota Herald-Tribune's Good Deeds • Exclusive content and invitations

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

Unknown