Grant ID: 2233

Title of Proposal: Back To Basics

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$21,000.00

Check Payable To: Spay & Neuter Nation, Inc.

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Spay & Neuter Nation, Inc

Website
Address:
spayneuternation.com

Person Submitting Proposal: Elaine Fiorelli Position: Treasurer

Person Submitting Proposal Email Address: elainegfiorelli@gmail.com

Agency Head: Lisa Goldstein

Agency Head

Email: SpayNeuterNation@gmail.com

Zip: 32822

Organization Business Address: 3436 Brookwater Circle **City:** Orlando

State: FLORIDA

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 321-325-0622 County: Orange

Cell: 407-970-5569 **Fax:**

Agency Details

EIN: 82-1400636

Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation: 08/01/2017

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$46,147.00 **Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$46,827.00

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

Number of Active Volunteers: 5

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 120.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? SNiP-It of Osceola County recommended we try for it in 2020

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

applicable):

Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications: Years Funded: 2022 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2020, 2021

	Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
	1901	2020	Spay/Neuter Community	Denied
Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):	1981	2021	Pitties and Kitties - Community Neuter Project	Denied
	2056	2022	Seminole County TNVR Initiative	Funded
	2233	2024	Back To Basics	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

Ⅵ TNR Group

☑ Rescue Group

☐ Other

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

Name Title

Flaine Fiorelli Treasurer

Heather Whitemore Secretary/Scheduler

Lisa Goldstein President

Shari Ahlers **Fundraising Coordinator**

Tracy Fleming Canine Coordinator

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

145 cats and 132 dogs were admitted.

142 cats and 131 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.

3 cats and 1 dogs were euthanized.

573 cats and 165 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal pro	grams:		
Stray/lost pet intake	Foster program	$\hfill \square$ 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 welness 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.

Spay & Neuter Nation, Inc. opened in 2017 as a 501c3. Our primary objective has been to help people get low-cost spay/neuter/vaccination for their pets, fosters, and community cats. Last year alone we funded sterlizations for 738 cats and dogs. In January 2023 we added a Canine Coordinator position to our board. She pulls at risk dogs from both Orange County and Seminole County Animal Services, and as a veterinary technician, specializes in medically needy animals. This has added to our total spayed/neutered foster dogs: 3 foster dogs in 2022 to 132 foster dogs in 2023. In January 2024 we added another board position, Fundraising Coordinator. This person is well-known in the TNVR community, very motivated, and we feel she will be an asset to our organization and will enable us to raise our income to previous levels. She is also an avid trapper and will add to our ability to provide TNVR for the public. For our 2022 grant, we focused on TNVR in Seminole County, and we proud of both the number of cats that were sterilized and vaccinated, and in our participation in getting the statutes changed to include provisions for TNVR, community cats, and their caregivers. Since then, the group of volunteers has become a 501c3 nonprofit of their own and no longer rely on us for funding. We're calling this the "Back to Basics" campaign because we want to refocus on the heart of our mission: helping pet owners and individual TNVR trappers afford sterilization and vaccinations for their companions and community cats. Every day people contact us to help with their free pets or they cannot keep them. They have good heartedly taken in a puppy or a kitten and are realizing how expensive it is to spay/neuter. They have started feeding a stray cat, only for it to have kittens and be joined by more neighborhood cats. We help people in subsidized housing projects, unhoused residents in temporary camps, and lowincome people throughout the area. When they approach us, they are desperate; some do not have reliable transportation, and we work around those barriers as well, often transporting their pets in our personal vehicles. We run our adoptions out of a Petsmart, and we set up adjacent to the veterinary clinic. There have have been times the Petsmart Vet staff have approached us for help for disabled or limited income pet owners who can't afford the \$200 - \$300 for sterlization services at their clinic. Regardless of how a resident initiates their plea for help, our appointment scheduler will ask what area of Central Florida they're in, what days of the week would be easiest on their schedules for an appointment, and will provide our negotiated prices for our partner clinics. If we're told they can only afford part of the total, or nothing at all, the officers work as a team to figure out how we can help them, often the funding comes from our own pockets. Of course, that limits the number of people and pets we can serve. In 2023, we sterilized 738 animals: 350 TNVR, 132 foster dogs, 33 owned dogs, 145 foster cats and 78 owned cats. The number of animals we aim to fix with this grant are based on 2023 totals and 2024 projections. We feel we already have the structure in place to facilitate these 360 subsidized spay/neuter appointments. We already have 4 slots/week for TNVR at Central Florida Community Pet Clinic and 2 weekly appointments for dogs at Spay N Save, who will also be granting us 2 slots/week for owned or TNVR cats. We have also partnered with additional local clinics to get special rates for sterilization and vaccination services, and will once again sponsor free to the public TNVR days at Pet Alliance's Alafaya Clinic. If we receive a \$21,000 grant from Florida Animal Friend we would use \$15000 to fund \$50/cat for 300 cats and \$6000 to fund \$100/dog for 60 dogs. This would cover most of the cost of spay/neuter/vaccinations based on our current negotiated pricing. Canine sterilizations are in the \$80-\$120 range, owned cats are approximately \$65 - \$125, and TNVR packages are typically \$45-60.

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

People contact us for help through a variety of avenues, including social media, calls and texts, and emails. Our scheduler will ask what area of Central Florida they're in, where they might be able to travel, and what our negotiated pricing is at the clinics most likely to suit their needs. If they are only able to pay a small amount, we will make up the difference. Owners prepay what they are able to afford directly to us, and we have an electronically signed agreement that outlines both parties' financial responsibilities. We pay the clinic invoices in full on the day of services to help streamline the checkout process and to keep a positive partnership status. For community cats, when we sponsor full days at our partner clinics, we have trappers reserve appointments in advance; slots are first come, first serve and we limit to 5 per person. Trappers must be able to tell us by noon the day before the event their total number of cats ready to go so we can submit the list to the clinic staff. Between these events, we currently have four weekly prepaid appointments at Central Florida Community Pet Clinic in Debary; funding for slots not filled get rolled over until the money is used. We will be adding two cat appointments per week at Spay N Save that can be used for either owned of TNVR, depending on our clients' needs for that specific week.

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

Cats: 573 **Dogs:** 165

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc. Be as specific as possible.):	Our services are available to residents of Orange, Osceola and Seminole Counties. This covers an area of 2854 square miles and a total estimated population of 2,354,043 people, 12.5% of the population living under poverty level. For this particular grant, we plan to focus on the following areas: East Orlando, Goldenrod, University, Christmas, Bithlo, Orlando, Pine Hills, Union Park, and Apopka.
Total human population in target area:	625395
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	15.9
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	189514
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	156349
Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	104233
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.

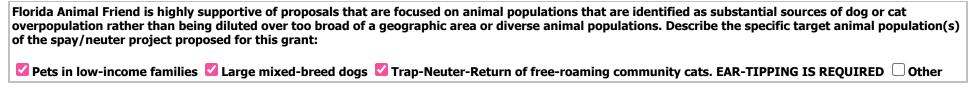
These areas are low-income and many animals roam free, unvetted. People tend to hide their true number of pets in fear of them being taken away. Residents also often do not claim ownership of free roaming animals in their care.

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

Residents with low-income status and/or rural housing often don't have the means to get their pets basic, regular veterinary care. Low-cost clinics in Central Florida are not open on the weekends, and owners may not be able to take time off of work to transport their pets to and from the vet. Education about spay & neuter is still lacking: we talk to people every day who did not realize that their pets will mate with siblings or that cats can go into heat as young as 4 months old. There are some cultures that are against sterilzation regardless of the long-term health benefits, and there is a portion of the population who see puppies as a way to make money.

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 many private vets in the area but they charge about \$200 - \$300 for a feline sterilization, \$400-800 for a canine sterilization, vaccinations or pain meds are not included, and they expect bloodwork before any animal has surgery. There are high quality low-cost clinics in Longwood, Alafaya, Debary, and Kissimmee but they are usually booked months ahead of time because of high demand.



Objectives

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

The purposes of the grant are: 1. Subsidize \$50 per cat for 300 cat sterilizations - we anticipate 200 TNVR and 100 owned and/or fostered cats 2. Subsidize \$100 per dog for 60 dogs In 2023, we sterilized 738 animals, including 33 owned dogs, 78 owned cats, and 350 TNVR cats. The projected 360 animals we aim to fix with this grant are based on these 2023 statistics and 2024 trends. Having grant funding available to aid clients will help stretch our donations to cover medical needs not included in the grant and will also mean less out-of-pocket payments from our officers. We believe that helping people get their pets sterilized and vaccinated will keep them with their families. Unaltered pets are more likely roam, ending up on the street pregnant or in the shelter. Vaccinations also mean that their pets are healthier, and specifically in the case of rabies, will keep them on compliance with local ordinances.

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

By securing appointments and subsidizing the cost for individuals we can provide services that would not be be able to afford. Utilizing FAF grant money to pay for these appointments allows us to allocate donation funds towards other events, such as sponsoring additional TNVR days.

Methods

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

People contact us through social media, email, phone, and in person. We tell people our negotiated pricing at our partner clinics, and they immediately inform us if they can afford it or not. We then ask them to contribute as much as they are able. We will subsidize 100% of our costs for anyone is not in a position to pay a portion. All 200 TNVR cats will be done for free for the person bringing them in.

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

Spay & Neuter Nation, Inc.'s Facebook page has over 31,000 followers and is our primary social media outreach. We are involved in local and community groups including Helping Cats of Central Florida, TNVR of Central Florida, and frequently promote our events and programs in these groups. We have recently increased our visibility on Instagram and will be posting there as well, along with tagging our partner clinics and Florida Animal Friend. We get many of our requests by word of mouth, especially while we are at our partnering Petsmart location for cat and dog adoptions. We also participate in at least 5 community special events a year, inlcuding EarthDay and VegFest, where we hand out information about spay/neuter/TNVR programs.

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

When a person with no transportation asks for help we try to find a friend or relative to transport. We use many different vets and clinics so we are able to connect them with a location close to them. We have also been known to transport animals in our personal vehicles, and will continue to do so. We have compiled a list of printable resources regarding spay/neuter/TNVR in Spanish and can either share direct links or print them out as needed. Best Friends Animal Society and Alley Cat Allies both have easy to understand infographics available, and are our go-to organizations for TNVR specific materials.

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.

As an absolute last resort and we're in dire need to transport ourselves, we will have a liability agreement with the owner and will comply with our individual car insurance policies. All five officers drive standard four wheel passenger vehicles that do not require additional operational licensing. Owned cats will be required to be in secured carriers, TNVR cats will be required to be in secured, covered traps; each cat will have its own carrier or trap. Dogs must have their own well-fitted collar, leash and/or harness. We reserve the right to refuse to transport dogs exhibiting extreme behavior or heavier in weight than what our officers can personally, safely control.

Veterinary Services

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

We have secured weekly appointments at Spay & Save Animal Clinic for 2 dogs and 2 cats and 4 weekly slots at Central Florida Community Pet for TNVR cats. We also have active arrangements with Oviedo Veterinary Care and Emergency, Pet Alliance's Alafaya Clinic, All Creatures Animal Hospital, Michigan Street Animal Hospital, and SNiP-It Clinic.

Are they:	In-House Veterinarian	Outside Clinic	Combination
AIC LICY.	— III House veterinarian	Outside Cillie	Combination

Participating veterinary practices if surgeries will not be performed in-house:

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
All Creatures Animal Hospital	5745 Pershing Ave	Orlando	FL	32822	407-277-6027	
Central Florida Community Pet Clinic	85 S Charles Richard Beall Blvd suite	DeBary	Florida	32713	386-320-0503	\checkmark
Michigan Street Animal Hospital	1201 West Michigan St	Orlando	FL	32805	407-648-2247	
Oviedo Veterinary Care and Emergency Hospital	3011West State Road 426	Oviedo	FL	32765	407-434-0020	
Pet Alliance of Central Florida Alafaya Clinic	12050 E Colonial Drive	Orlando	FL	32826	407-351-7722	
SNIP-it of Central Florida	3096 Michigan Avenue	Kissimmee	FL	34744	407-476-4748	
Spay N Save	988 N Ronald Reagan Blvd	Longwood	Florida	32750	407-920-4894	\checkmark

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	\$100.00	\$100.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00

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 Ves, Fee to client Ves Fee to Client? Required, Optional, or Not Offered **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 No ○ Yes **Pain Medication*** • Required Optional Ont Available ○ No ● Yes \$6.50 **Parasite Medication** Required Optional Not Available ○ No ● Yes \$18.00 **HW Testing** ○ Required **○** Optional ○ Not Available **Feline Leuk/FIV** Required Optional Not Available ● No ○ Yes **County License** Required Optional Not Available No ○ Yes ● No ○ Yes **Ear tipping*** • Required Optional Onto Available ○ No ○ Yes \$5.00 Microchip Required Optional Not Available ● No ○ Yes **Other** Optional Not Available

* = REQUIRED by grant

None of the anticipated grant funds can be used for <u>any</u> 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:

Spay N Save standard dog package includes: sterilization, rabies vaccination, DA2LLP vaccine, nail trim, multimodal injectable and take-home pain medications. We will also pay for microchipping (\$3) and for the required Elizabethan style collar for post-op (\$5), but not with FAF grant funding. Heartworm testing is optional (\$18) and will be paid by the client. Base price varies depending on if the dog is male or female and if the dog weighs more/less than 90lbs. Females in heat are also subject to an additional fee of \$25. \$100 is considered an average cost per dog. Spay N Save standard "owned" cat package includes: sterilization, rabies vaccination, FVRCP vaccination, nail trim, multimodal injectable pain medication. We will also pay for the microchipping (\$3), but not with FAF grant funding. There is no additional fee for in heat or spay/abort. This package is normally \$70 for both male and female cats; the \$50 requested should still cover our costs as TNVR appointments are less expensive. Spay N Save standard TNVR package includes: sterilization, rabies vaccination, FVRCP vaccination, ear tip, ivermectin, multimodal injectable pain medication. Trappers/caregivers may opt to self pay for microchipping (\$3). There is no additional fee for in heat or spay/abort. This package includes: sterilization, rabies vaccination, FVRCP vaccination, ear tip, ivermectin, multimodal injectable pain medication. Trappers/caregivers may opt to self pay for microchipping (\$5). There is no additional fee for in heat or spay/abort. This package is normally \$45 for both male and female cats; the \$50 requested per appointment will offset the higher prices for "owned" cats.

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?



Please list them and detail their level of involvement with the proposed effort.

Name	Level of Involvement
Central Florida Community Pet Clinic	They will be the location for most of the TNVR services
CLP Animal Rescue	They have fostered some of the young kittens from TNVR, partner in adoption events, referral source
H and J Kitten Rescue	A referral source and also a group that will take in medical cases of cats and dogs
Helping Cats in Central Florida	Facebook page that allows us to advertise our funded projects, referrals for spay/neuter
Orange County Animal Services	We rescue hard case cats and dogs from here. They refer people to us for low-cost spay and neuter
Osceola County Animal Services	We rescue problem cat cases from there.
Pet Alliance of Central Florida	They have provided assistance with TNVR and their clinic has hosted several TNVR days for us
Seminole County Animal Services	We rescue dogs and cats from here and they refer TNVR situations to us.
Spay N Save	They will be the main vet we will use for dog and "owned" cat sterilizations, but will also take some TNVR cats
TNR of Central Florida	Facebook page where we share information about our grants, partner in TNVR efforts, referrals for clients
University High School	Their Vet Assistant program provides up help in fundraising and spay/neuter events. They are a link to the East Orlando low income pet owners. We sponsor a free spay day for their staff and students each year and the students are able to assist at the clinic.

Other Information

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

We have been highly successful in offering nearly 800 - 1000 low-cost spay/neuter services through various agencies every year for the past 3 years. We have added 2 dynamic new officers to our very active board of directors and continually strengthen our relationships with our partner clinics, and we are confident we can handle the 360 spay/neuter packages we are proposing.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 300 **Dogs:** 60

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$21,000.00

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.):

We supply microchips if they are not included in the package; clinics charge anywhere from \$0 - \$5 for inserting chips that we provide. Some clinics include rabies and DA2LLP vaccinations for dogs in their basic packages, but for the clinics that do not, the owner would be responsible for these. Owners are also responsible for heartworm testing and prevention. If a reduceable umbilical hernia repair is notated and required at the time of the appointment, we will either have the owner pay for additional charges, split the cost with them, or pay for it entirely depending on their financial situation. These will not be paid for by FAF funding. If a female requires additional care for spay/abort or pyometra, we will either have the owner pay for additional charges, split the cost with them, or pay for it entirely depending on their financial situation. These will not be paid for by FAF funding. If a scrotal ablation is medically required by the clinic at the time of a dog's neuter, we will either have the owner to pay for additional charges, split the cost with them, or pay for it entirely depending on their financial situation. We will not pay for a cosmetic ablation, and these will not be paid for by FAF funding.

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

To cover the costs for people who cannot pay anything, we do fundraising and special events throughout the year, most notibly Central Florida Earth Day and VegFest, where we are in charge of the Animal Haven section. To bolster our community cat specific funding, we apply for the Community Cats Podcast grant during every cycle we are elligible. We also sell branded t-shirts at our live events and through social media campaigns.

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:** 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.

Spay & Neuter Nation has added new people to the board who will assist in fundraising. We believe we will continue to raise our income with their help, as we're very excited to have a specific Fundraising Coordinator who will be tasked with searching out new outlets for generating donations of all sizes. Our website is also slated to get a makeover, and we plan to include more clearly labeled donation avenues. We will continue to apply annually for grant funding through Franklin's Friends, and we're confident that we'll continue to be a worthy recipient of their award.

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 will post the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate information on our Facebook which has over 31,000 followers, our growing Instagram page, and in pet-related community pages. We will have a direct link to purchase the license plate on our website and will display and distribute printed materials at spay/neuter events, weekly adoption events, and community events throughout Central Florida.

Number of FAF specialty plates on vehicles of staff and/or volunteers: 5