

Grant ID: 2242

**Title of Proposal:** TNVR Hillsborough

**Agency Type:** Non-Profit

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

**Check Payable To:** St Francis Society

## Application Information

### Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** St Francis Society

**Website Address:** stfrancisrescue.org

**Person Submitting Proposal:** Lisa Knight

**Position:** Treasurer

**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** stfrancissociety@gmail.com

**Agency Head:** Jen Tate

**Agency Head Email:** jenfortheanimals@yahoo.com

**Organization Business Address:** PO Box 261614

**City:** Tampa

**State:** FL

**Zip:** 33685

**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 813-892-6968

**County:** Hillsborough

**Cell:** 813-892-6968

**Fax:**

### Agency Details

**EIN:** 59-3469332

**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 12/01/1997

**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 09/01/22 **End:** 08/31/23

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$725,540.00

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$551,146.00

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

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 105

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 1140.00

**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Social media and conversations with prior grant winners.

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

**Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2018

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

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1569	2006		Denied
1750	2018	Cats of Hillsborough County	Denied
2242	2024	TNVR Hillsborough	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
Amy Crosby	Director
Jen Tate	President
Jim Martinelli	Director
Larry Burghdorf	Director
Lisa Knight	Treasurer
Merinda Wolfe	Director
Patti Gumz	Secretary

**Applicant Qualifications**

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

**1878 cats and 6 dogs were admitted.**

**1816 cats and 6 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.**

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

**0 cats and 6 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.**

Established in 1997, St. Francis Society Animal Rescue is an all-volunteer non-profit animal rescue organization dedicated to saving the lives of sick, injured and stray cats and dogs. In January 2021, after seeing so many unmet feral cat needs in the Tampa community, St. Francis Society created a structured TNR (trap, neuter, return) team. This team consists of nearly a dozen St. Francis volunteers dedicated to helping combat the large number of stray and feral cats in Tampa Bay. This team is committed to not only the trapping, neutering and return of feral cats, but also the removal of young kittens from their colonies for adoption. In 2023, St. Francis Society helped TNR over 2,500 cats in our community. St. Francis Society utilizes every known source for TNR surgeries in our community. However, as any trapper in our area can attest to, there are simply not enough TNR resources to combat the crisis of cat overpopulation in our community. Slomba Shelter Solutions offers a unique program that utilizes relief veterinarians, veterinary technicians and rescue group volunteers at clinics that are otherwise unoccupied on the weekend. They have successfully used this program in several Southeast cities of the U.S. to help fill the gap and have a proven track record of sterilizing over 6,000 animals in 2023 with this program. Our TNR team works daily with feral cats and is fully qualified on how to trap, transport, recover and release community cats. In addition to our TNR team, we will also offer free surgery space to other rescue group TNR teams who are fully qualified in TNVR.

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

St. Francis Society trappers have extensive experience in various types of humane cat trapping methods. In addition to finding cat colonies that need TNVR services, our trappers are also dispatched into the community after we receive a request for TNR help through our website. Since we do not have our own clinic, volunteers hold cats for next-day transport to one of the few clinics providing TNR surgeries. The cats also receive an ear tip and rabies shot as part of the service and are held overnight as a precaution. The volunteers typically transport the cats back to the colony the next day where they are released. This is a service to our community that our volunteers are truly passionate about and can instantly see how it impacts an area making a huge difference. Both the services and surgeries are offered to the community free of charge.

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

**Cats:** 2576 **Dogs:** 0

**Target Population**

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc. Be as specific as possible.):</b>	Hillsborough County
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	1,535,564
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	12.9
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	465323
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	383891
<b>Estimated number of free-roaming community cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	255928
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	N/A
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	N/A

<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	N/A
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	N/A
<b>Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.</b> With year round breeding in Florida, as well as decreased TNVR services available during COVID, we believe the population of community cats to be much higher than noted above.	
<b>Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:</b> In Hillsborough County the most prevalent source of dog and cat overpopulation is the lack of access to affordable sterilization options, especially for feral and community cats. According to the Humane Society of the United States, feral and community cats are the most significant source of cat overpopulation because only 2% have been sterilized and they produce approximately 80% of the kittens born each year. Further, with one of the highest rates of inflation in the country, Tampa has experienced a dramatic increase in veterinary costs leading to the closure of one of the few clinics offering TNR in the area.	
<b>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?</b> Hillsborough County has very limited low or no-cost sterilizations for feral and community cat populations. The taxpayer-funded voucher program applies to only owned cats. The Humane Society of Tampa Bay hosts a feral cat program each Monday, but reservations are extremely limited. Harmony Veterinary Clinic offers a Monday spay and neuter clinic once a month where 100 trapped community cats can be sterilized, but those appointments also fill up quickly. The Pet Resource Center, Hillsborough County's public shelter, limits the county to a total of 40 TNVR spots per week for a population of over 1.5 million residents. There are simply not enough available TNVR resources in our county.	
<b>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:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input type="checkbox"/> Large mixed-breed dogs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trap-Neuter-Return of free-roaming community cats. EAR-TIPPING IS REQUIRED <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

## Objectives

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

These funds will allow us to spay and neuter 500 feral and community cats currently residing in target areas of Hillsborough County, Florida.

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

With this grant, St. Francis Society will be able to increase the number of sterilizations in two ways. First, when available, we will contract with Slomba Shelter Solutions, LLC to engage relief veterinarians and veterinary technicians from across the state to perform TNVR sterilization surgeries. These free clinics will be held on Sundays when regular surgeries are not performed at the Humane Society of Tampa Bay and the surgery center would otherwise sit idle. In addition, we would also utilize some of the funding to enable our trappers to access Harmony Veterinary Clinics throughout the week. Depending on surgery loads, Harmony Veterinary Clinics allow us to bring in a few cats per day needing TNVR services. Having the funds to utilize these clinics is critical, especially when working with community requests involving pregnant females who should be sterilized immediately.

## Methods

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

Eligibility will be determined through a triage process where our volunteer trappers receive requests for assistance by the public, as well as when trappers discover new colonies. Some of the eligibility factors include the number of feral or community cats needing sterilization in an area. Are cats in immediate physical danger? Are they deemed a nuisance due to non-sterilized cat behaviors such as fighting and spraying? Are there kittens or pregnant females? The services needed are prioritized to determine the distribution of surgery appointments. Feral and community cats and will then be transported to the clinics in humane cat traps by volunteers, weighed, and deemed healthy enough for surgery as determined by a veterinarian. Kittens must weigh at least 2 pounds to be eligible for surgery.

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

The appointments at Harmony Veterinary Clinic will not require advertising as they will only be utilized by St. Francis Society trappers as they struggle to assist with the massive number of TNVR requests they receive from the public. However, the free clinics that we are able to contract with Slomba Shelter Solutions, LLC will be available to trappers throughout Hillsborough County. These clinics will be advertised on social media, with the Hillsborough County Pet Resource Center, with the Humane Society of Tampa Bay and by local cat rescues.

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

We will use trappers, feeders, colony caretakers, and other volunteers to instruct the affected residents on the advantages of TNVR. Much of this contact will occur in person or through targeted advertisements. Contacts and instructions will be provided in Spanish where appropriate. Transportation of the cats will only be provided by trained trappers.

**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 transportation of cats in humane traps from the trapping sites to the clinics will be done by rescue volunteers, cat trappers or colony caretakers that are all well versed in feral cat behavior and containment.

## Veterinary Services

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

We have been in contact with Slomba Shelter Solutions, LLC and they have confirmed that they are able to provide relief veterinarians and veterinary technicians from across the state to perform the sterilization surgeries. We also work closely with Harmony Veterinary Clinics on a regular basis and are familiar with their TNVR surgery availability.

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
Harmony Veterinary Clinic	3301 John Moore Rd	Brandon	FL	33511	813-871-0850	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slomba Shelter Solutions, LLC	335 Patrick Circel	Melbourne	FL	32901	716-474-0335	<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	\$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?
<b>Examination</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Rabies Vaccination if Due</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Other Vaccination if Due</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Pain Medication*</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Parasite Medication</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>HW Testing</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Feline Leuk/FIV</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>County License</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Ear tipping*</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Microchip</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Other</b>	<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:

The grant will cover \$50 towards the spay and neuter surgeries, ear-tip and pain medication. St. Francis Society will cover the cost of the rabies vaccine, the FVRCP vaccine, and parasite medication if needed. For any surgeries performed at Harmony Veterinary Clinic, St. Francis Society will also cover the additional surgery fees above the \$50/cat grant award. No fees will be charged to the trappers, caretakers or community.

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
CATpassionate Village, Inc.	CATpassionate Village Inc. will utilize their volunteer cat trappers and TNVR team to participate in the Sunday TNVR clinics.
First Ladies Farm and Sanctuary	First Ladies Farm and Sanctuary Inc will utilize their volunteer cat trappers and TNVR team to participate in the Sunday TNVR clinics.
Fix and Feed Feline Feral, Inc.	Fix and Feed Feline Feral Inc. will utilize their volunteer cat trappers and TNVR team to participate in the Sunday TNVR clinics.
Harmony Veterinary Care	Harmony Veterinary Care offers a limited number of TNVR surgeries Monday-Saturday. We will utilize their TNVR services at two of their locations located in Hillsborough County.
Humane Society of Tampa Bay	The Humane Society of Tampa Bay will provide the surgical facilities for the Sunday TNVR clinics when regular surgeries are not performed. They will also inform their volunteer cat trappers of the option to participate in the Sunday events.
Rescue Pets of Florida	Rescue Pets of Florida will utilize their volunteer cat trappers and TNVR team to participate in the Sunday TNVR clinics.

### Other Information

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

There are simply not enough homes available to adopt our way out of the homeless cat crisis in Hillsborough County and we must sterilize community cats to stem the tide. Our grant request aims to sterilize 500 cats and according to The Cat Encyclopedia, this will prevent the birth of over 16,000,000 homeless kittens over a 5 year period. Whether true or not, it is certainly true that sterilizing even one feral or community cat will prevent generations of suffering.

### Budget

**Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:****Cats:** 500 **Dogs:** 0**Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000):** \$25,000.00**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.):**

St. Francis Society will cover the cost of the rabies vaccine, the FVRCP vaccine, and parasite medication if needed. For any surgeries performed at Harmony Veterinary Clinic, St. Francis Society will also cover the additional surgery fees above the \$50/cat grant award.

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

Additional funding sources include budget allocations, online fundraising campaigns, donor support, and pursuit of additional grant funding.

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

80

## 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:** 04/30/25**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.**

St. Francis Society will continue to apply for TNVR grant funding and request donations to continue TNVR services in our community. We also have a small stream of revenue from investments that can be accessed if necessary. Finally, we can request the distribution of TNVR costs among other cat rescue and TNVR groups to help continue the 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.**



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**St. Francis Society would publicly thank and advertise the Florida Animal Friend Grant Program for their generous award and would encourage the purchase of Florida Animal Friend license plates via a link on our website, social media pages, press releases and newsletters.**

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

**Unknown**