

Grant ID: 2367

Title of Proposal: Targeted TNVR in Jacksonville, FL**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00**Check Payable To:** Jacksonville Humane Society

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Jacksonville Humane Society**Website Address:** jaxhumane.org**Person Submitting Proposal:** Lindsay Layendecker**Position:** Sr. Director of Development**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** LLayendecker@jaxhumane.org**Person Submitting Proposal Cell:** 904-613-6331**Organization Head:** Lawrence Nicolas**Organization Head's Email:** LNicolas@jaxhumane.org**Organization Business Address:** 8464 BEACH BLVD**City:** Jacksonville**State:** FL**Zip:** 32216**Organization Business Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 904-725-8766**County:** Duval**Organization Head's Cell:** 720-468-2183

Agency Details

EIN:0%"> EIN: 59-0624410**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 05/20/1981**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/24 **End:** 12/31/24**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$7,095,395.50**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$6,607,743.78**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 65 Part Time: 10**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** JHS is a previous applicant and award recipient.**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2012, 2014, 2019, 2021, 2023 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2016,2017,2018**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

| Grant # | Proposal Year | Proposal Title | Status |
|---------|---------------|---|--------|
| 183 | 2010 | Spay Neuter And Protect (SNAP) | Denied |
| 327 | 2012 | Jacksonville Community Cat Spay/Neuter Initiative | Funded |
| 1411 | 2014 | Jacksonville Fix Under 6 Spay/Neuter Program | Funded |
| 1640 | 2016 | Fix Before Six 2016 | Denied |
| 1708 | 2017 | Pet Safety Net | Denied |

| | | | |
|------|------|--|--------|
| 1802 | 2018 | Fix Cats & Kittens | Denied |
| 1845 | 2019 | Increasing Capacity for TNR in Jacksonville | Funded |
| 1988 | 2021 | Increasing Feline Surgeries & Decreasing Kittens | Funded |
| 2134 | 2023 | Increased Capacity for Pet Surgeries in Jacksonville | Funded |
| 2367 | 2025 | Targeted TNVR in Jacksonville, FL | Funded |

***Type of Organization (check all that apply):**

- ☐ Municipal Agency with Shelter
- ☐ Municipal Agency without Shelter
- ☒ Private Animal Shelter
- ☐ Private Animal Shelter with Municipal Contract
- ☐ Public Spay/Neuter Services
- ☐ Other Public Veterinary Services
 - Non-profit Agency
 - ☐ TNR Group
 - ☐ Rescue Group
- ☐ Other

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

| Name | Title |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Lauren Ghirardi | COO & President |

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

- 5782 cats and 2779 dogs were admitted.**
- 4792 cats and 2449 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.**
- 405 cats and 88 dogs were euthanized.**
- 4888 cats and 1773 dogs were sterilized.**

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.

This grant application will support our TNR efforts. In the past, JHS received funding from PetSmart Charities, Florida Animal Friend, and Alley Cat Allies to conduct TNR clinics for community cats in our area. While these clinics successfully altered more than 1,000 additional cats each year, we did not see a significant decline in kitten intake. Therefore, JHS established a feline programs coordinator role within our management staff to recruit, train, and supervise volunteer trappers who will use intake data to perform targeted TNR. We have collaborated with our city shelter to analyze the combined data and target five ZIP codes with the highest intake in 2024. We have recruited 10 experienced volunteers to assist with these efforts. We are prepared to trap, neuter, and return cats! Our spay/neuter programs are overseen by our Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Stan Hill, DVM, who has been with JHS for the past thirteen years. Dr. Hill leads a team of three veterinarians and sixteen veterinary technicians. He collaborates with our Chief of Operations, Lauren Ghirardi, who began her career as an adoption counselor at JHS in 2012. Lauren oversees the team, which includes our Feline Programs Coordinator, a certified veterinary technician who has worked at JHS for five years. Both Lauren and Dr. Hill operate under the guidance of our CEO, Lawrence Nicolas. Lawrence started as a kennel technician at the Denver Dumb Friends League, advanced through the ranks at Best Friends Animal Society, and most recently served as the Chief Operations Officer at Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League in West Palm Beach before joining JHS in 2021.

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

JHS has two spay/neuter programs—one for shelter pets and another for shelter diversion. The traditional model for shelter pets involves spaying and neutering dogs and cats that arrive at JHS as strays or are surrendered by their owners. This surgery occurs before adoption or reunification with their families. JHS also offers spay/neuter programs focused on shelter diversion. For dogs, this initiative is called "Home Stray Hold. " This program is designed for citizens who find dogs and are willing to keep them in their homes during the city-mandated seven-day stray hold period. At the end of the seven days, if the finder has not located the owner and chooses to adopt, JHS provides a free spay/neuter service. JHS has a similar initiative for kittens called Kitten Crusaders. This

program supports citizens who discover kittens under eight weeks old and are willing to care for them until they can be altered and placed for adoption. If the finder decides to keep the kittens or find them new homes without using JHS's adoption services, we offer free spay/neuter services. In 2024, JHS served 400+ kittens through this initiative. Lastly, JHS offers free spay/neuter services to clients who utilize our free vaccination clinics. This effort keeps these pets healthy and with their families while also reducing the number of unaltered pets in our city.

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

Cats: 4888 **Dogs:** 1773

Target Population

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 ☐ S/N services where demand exceeds current resources. ☐ Other

| | |
|--|---|
| Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, etc. Be as specific as possible.): | Jacksonville, Duval County, Zip Codes: 32218, 32211, 32207, 32216 |
|--|---|

Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:
Unaltered community cats are our area's most substantial source of cat overpopulation. JHS tracks our intake data weekly to make year-over-year comparisons. At the start of 2024, we noticed that kitten intake numbers were not declining but were slightly increasing with the spring and summer months. This trend continued throughout the year. By the end of 2024, we had received 294 more kittens than in 2023. We used our intake data to determine where most kittens were found. Four zip codes, 32218, 32211, 32207, and 32216, were identified as problem areas where most of the kittens were found. With your help, we can provide more TNR for these areas and reduce the number of kittens entering our shelter. By reducing kitten intake, we provide more adoption opportunities and resources for adult cats.

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?
Currently, our area has limited options for the TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) of community cats. Sterilization services are offered by First Coast No More Homeless Pets, but they restrict assistance to six cats per resident each month and occasionally charge a fee. This limitation makes trapping colonies challenging, as they often contain more than six cats, and best practices suggest that trapping should occur over several days. The Jacksonville Humane Society can alter community cats and return them to their territories at no cost to residents; however, this typically happens when an individual tries to assist one or two cats. Our budget also limits us. The same applies to the city of Jacksonville's Animal Care & Protective Services. So, while services are available for small numbers of cats, they are not viable solutions for large colonies of unfixed cats where kittens are being produced in large quantities.

Objectives

What do you hope to accomplish with these funds (objectives should be specific and quantifiable)?
The Jacksonville Humane Society (JHS) is seeking a \$25,000 grant from Florida Animal Friend to sterilize 625 community cats, which will help control the feline population in our city. JHS has developed a targeted plan for the TNR of community cats, which includes adding a staff member to manage the program and recruiting 10 volunteer trappers to assist. Our targeted TNR program began in February 2025. To date, we have trapped, neutered, and returned 66 cats from our identified zip codes with the help of our volunteers. Our goal is to sterilize 625 community cats during the grant terms. We predict this will lead to at least a 30% decrease in the number of kittens entering our shelter compared to the same period from the previous 12 months.

How does this program increase the number of sterilization surgeries above the existing baseline?
Currently, JHS can perform approximately 300 community cat surgeries per year. Your funds will help us increase this number by 625, bringing the total number of surgeries to 925.

Methods

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

JHS is using past intake data to isolate four zip codes. We have recruited 10 volunteer trappers who will identify and target the colonies in each zip code. Additionally, we will collaborate with our local animal control municipality and volunteers to identify and trap any colonies outside of these zip codes. Therefore, all cat trapping in this program will be conducted by JHS volunteers.

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

We will use several approaches to identify areas where large cat colonies are located and need our targeted TNR services. Using our intake data from the last two years, we identified four zip codes from which most kittens originated. Our volunteers work in these areas to talk to residents, locate colonies, and begin trapping. We will also talk to residents who bring kittens to our Pet Help Center (intake) to determine if there is a larger cat population in the area that would benefit from TNR. Last, we will work with our local animal control municipality. Their Animal Control Officers (ACOs) and the city's phone bank will alert us to large colonies.

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

JHS has recruited 10 volunteers to assist us with trapping. Our project manager is also bilingual, speaking both English and Spanish. JHS staff will be assisting volunteers in returning the cats via a JHS vehicle.

Does this project involve the transportation of animals by someone other than the client? If so, describe.

No. The transportation will be done by JHS staff and volunteers.

Veterinary Services

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

Our team of veterinarians and veterinary technicians will perform all surgeries at JHS.

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. This includes pain medication, ear tipping, and \$ 2 per animal for rabies vaccinations. Costs for licensing, testing, transport, etc. are not to be paid for with grant funds.

| | Amount Paid by Client | Amount Paid by Project | Total Amount |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Range for Male Cats | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$40.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$40.00"/> |
| Range for Female Cats | <input type="text" value="\$0.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$40.00"/> | <input type="text" value="\$40.00"/> |
| 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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input 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 type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> 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**

Grant funds cannot be used for the above services except for pain medication, ear tipping, and \$2 per animal for rabies vaccination.

If necessary, please explain the procedures and fees described above:

JHS will provide each feline with rabies vaccination if due, FVRCP vaccination if due, pain medication, and an ear tip. Our city does not require a city license for cats who go through a TNR program and receive a rabies license.

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 |
|--|---|
| City of Jacksonville Animal Care & Protective Services | ACPS and the City of Jacksonville is supplying information from the city's call center (904-630-CITY) and animal control officers to help identify unfixed cat colonies, as well as supplying address and zip code information of cat intake to help with targeted TNR. |
| First Coast No More Homeless Pets | FCNMHP is identifying individuals who are coming to their food bank to provide for colonies but are not physically able to do TNR. JHS is sending our volunteer trappers to TNR these colonies. |
| JHS Volunteers | JHS has recruited 10 dedicated volunteers who go into the community and assist with trapping, communicating to residents, and returning cats to the field. |

Other Information

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

JHS is committed to this program. We firmly believe that the primary goal of reducing kitten intake will greatly benefit both the animals in our community and those in our care. Underage kittens represent the most vulnerable population in shelters, as they have the lowest survival rate and require the most resources. Although we have programs to support kittens and promote ways to help

them, the best outcome for our community is a decrease in their population. JHS has hired a manager to oversee this targeted TNR program and is allocating funds to make it happen. With your support, we can increase our impact.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 625 **Dogs:** 0

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$40.00

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

JHS has allocated \$35,000 for a staff member to oversee the program, along with \$12,000 for feline surgeries related to 300 TNR, resulting in a total of \$47,000 in our annual budget.

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

35%

If not 100%, please elaborate.

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: 08/01/25/ **Projected end date:** 08/01/26

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.**

JHS is a 501c3 nonprofit with a dedicated development team. For our annual budget, 70% comes from contributed income and 30% is earned revenue. JHS's contributed income is made up of 65% individual donors, 20% grants and foundations, and 15% corporate partners and events. JHS's earned revenue streams include our adoption fees and humane education program. JHS will continue to use these methods to sustain our funding in the future.

Promotion of Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate

***Applicants selected for funding are expected to actively publicize their grant in support of their spay/neuter program and promote the sale of the Animal Friend license plate. Publicity efforts should include press releases, newsletters, website links, and social media posts, among other strategies. Florida Animal Friend's marketing firm will provide assistance and advice, and partner with your organization to achieve coverage. 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 as part of their reporting obligations.**

JHS will promote and publicize the Florida Animal Friend license plate in the following ways: - Press Release to 65 local media contacts - Segment on "First Coast Living" - ABC/NBC television news affiliate - Segment on "River City Live" - PBS/CW television news affiliate - Letter to the Editor from JHS CEO, Florida Times Union - Blog on our website that reaches 1 million viewers annually - Year-long promotion on the scrolling logo dash on our website (this appears on every page of our website) - Posts on our social media channels, reaching more than 150,000 online followers - Brochures (if available) will be placed on our front counter in the Adoption center, which sees close to 4,000 visitors monthly - FAF License plate on all 4 JHS vehicles JHS is also open to any ideas and suggestions from Florida Animal Friend.

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

5