

Grant ID: 2348

Title of Proposal: Happy Snip Snip**Agency Type:** Municipal**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00**Check Payable To:** Miami-Dade County Animal Services

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Miami-Dade County Animal Services**Website Address:** www.miamidade.gov/animals**Person Submitting Proposal:** Veronica Navarrete**Position:** Grants Coordinator**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** veronica.navarrete@miamidade.gov**Person Submitting Proposal Cell:** 305-418-7187**Organization Head:** Annette Jose**Organization Head's Email:** annette.jose@miamidade.gov**Organization Business Address:** 3599 NW 79 Ave**City:** Doral**State:** FL**Zip:** 33122**Organization Business Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 305-418-7151**County:** Miami-Dade County**Organization Head's Cell:**

Agency Details

EIN:0% "> EIN: 59-6000573**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:****Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 10/01/23 **End:** 09/30/24**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$38,498,471.93**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$38,498,471.93**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 304 Part Time: 0**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Through Miami Dade Animal Services email. We are subscribed to Florida Animal Friend's email list. Also, we are a previous grant recipient with FAF.**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: : 2009, 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2023 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2007, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2020, and 2022**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
44	2009	Dade County Spay/Neuter Project	Funded
281	2011	Cat Spay/Neuter Program	Denied
371	2013	Community Cat Sterilization	Denied
1437	2014	Income Qualified Spay/Neuter	Funded

1487	2015	Free Spay/Neuter for Income Qualified Residents	Denied
1611	2007		Denied
1685	2016	Income Qualified Spay/Neuter	Funded
1803	2018	Making Spay/Neuter Accessible for the pets of Income Qualifying Residents in Miami-Dade County	Funded
1912	2020	Low-Income Spay and Neuter for Income Eligible Residents	Ineligible
2026	2022	Cats Thrive in 305: Community Cat Center	Denied
2126	2023	Snip Snip Hooray!	Funded
2348	2025	Happy Snip Snip	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):

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

26334 cats and 6457 dogs were admitted.

25948 cats and 6433 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.

1695 cats and 430 dogs were euthanized.

24200 cats and 9372 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.

Miami-Dade County Animal Services (ASD) has successfully operated a high-quality, high-volume sterilization program for years for its shelter population and the TNVR program. However, the Department stopped offering daily sterilization services to owned pets at the Pet Adoption and Protection Center in Doral, FL in 2020 due to COVID-19, insufficient staffing, and a strategic shift of resources into the TNVR program, which renders services to more than 15,000 community cats each year. Animal Services has strategically incorporated public surgeries at the main Doral clinic where 45-66 owned pets are sterilized each week. Currently, ASD only consistently offers low-cost surgeries to pet owners at Homestead, FL location where an average of 70-80 pets is sterilized each week. Additionally, ASD offers TNVR services at the Community Cat Center located in Cutler Bay and has consistently reserved time slots for public surgeries during spay and neuter events (in which services are free) and assist rescue organizations with TNVR services. Nonetheless, the Department remains committed to assisting pet owners by hosting events in targeted communities and conducting county-wide campaigns. One such initiative is Operation Pit Stop, recently launched again and funded by Friends of Miami Animals (FOMA). To date, 60 large-breed dogs have been sterilized, vaccinated, and microchipped at no cost to pet owners. The goal for each Pit Stop event is to sterilize approximately 700 dogs throughout the year, based on two contracted surgical teams. Additionally, ASD hosts Redland Dog Events and ASD Dog Events, where approximately 25 dogs can be sterilized per event, totaling around 550 dogs annually. This estimate is based on having one surgical team per event, with the potential to increase if an additional team is secured. Another large-scale, no-cost spay and neuter event is Snip, Tip Hooray!, where 475 owned cats and 308 owned dogs were sterilized. Additionally, 315 TNVR cats underwent sterilization at the Doral location. With more than fifteen years of experience in the management of high-quality, high-volume sterilization programs, Chief of Veterinary Services, Dr. Maria Serrano, oversees all shelter surgical programs. The clinic staff is comprised of nine shelter veterinarians (one currently pending) and thirty-five veterinary technicians who provide the required support to ensure success of the program. ASD's marketing team promotes our efforts throughout the County and in targeted areas.

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

ASD offers free TNVR services to Miami-Dade County residents year-round. For owned pets, ASD offers a limited amount (roughly 70-80 weekly) of low-cost surgeries to pet owners at its Homestead, FL location and roughly 45-66 weekly public surgeries at the Doral clinic. To make S/N completely free in these communities, is outside of the ASD's means without additional resources contributing to that affect. Hence, The Department offers low, and no cost sterilization services to owned pets through outreach programs, constantly seeking community partners to host events in targeted areas or sponsor large-scale spay and neuter events at our facilities (Doral, Homestead, and Cutler Bay). ASD has historically brought the services to underserved areas by thus removing barriers, making them fully accessible to anyone seeking them.

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

Cats: 24200 **Dogs:** 9372

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.):

Miami-Dade County

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

The top substantial sources of pet overpopulation in Miami-Dade County are based off weather and infrastructure, lack of pet sterilization mandate, cultural ideologies on pet ownership, and poverty. South Florida's year-round warm weather results in a longer neonate season and is a crucial factor in keeping population levels high both at our Pet Adoption and Protection agency and on the streets. The current infrastructure in the area is increasing with more apartment complexes and a stagnant issue with HOA. This is further exacerbated by the lack of a pet sterilization mandate. Additionally, the culturally diverse populations residing in Miami-Dade County are often unaware of the health benefits or have severe misconceptions about sterilization. Lastly, poverty plays a key role, as families experiencing financial hardships must often make difficult choices and sterilizing a pet cannot be prioritized. ASD researched owner surrenders and general intake against low-income areas and found a strong correlation between the two. To curtail this, ASD has many programs focused on these communities.

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?

Located in a large metropolitan area, Miami-Dade County Animal Services offers spay/neuter services at a subsidized rate for all Miami-Dade County residents at its Doral clinic, Homestead, FL location, and in Cutler Bay, FL (occasionally during events in which services are free). Pet owners can sterilize their pets by visiting any of the several private veterinary clinics available. However, the cost of the surgery makes it prohibitive to many pet owners. There are other animal welfare organizations that we partner with due to the increase in demand for sterilization services, including, but not limited to the Humane Society, Animal Welfare Society of South Florida, the Cat Network, South Florida ASPCA, and relief veterinarians. Currently, ASD offers around 70-80 low-cost weekly surgeries at its Homestead clinic and 45-66 low-cost weekly surgeries at its main Doral clinic. And historically offered sterilization surgeries to the public through the Mobile Animal Clinic (MAC) at events hosted around the community. Despite these efforts, and as made evident by the percentage of unaltered pets that came into our care in fiscal year 2024 (46% of adult dogs and 54% of adult cats) and the large community cat population, the need for free spay/neuter surgeries is much higher than the resources currently available in our community. Through Florida Animal Friend's 2023 grant, ASD projected that it would provide 1,600 surgeries, instead, ASD increased the number of surgeries performed by over 70%. Visitors to the Pet Adoption and Protection Center often inquire about the services the Department used to offer, and the need is also communicated to the County's information line, 311.

Objectives

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

Through this grant, ASD will offer free sterilization services for qualifying low-income residents throughout Miami-Dade County. During the grant period, ASD aims to host a spay and neuter event every other month to amplify the impact. Additionally, support from this grant will allow ASD to explore increasing the number of public surgeries offering a small number 45-66 of weekly surgeries, some of

which will be offered at either no cost or discounted costs to our qualifying low-income residents using grant funds. That latter number is more fluid and will be dependent on the number of surgeries performed at spay and neuter events.

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

ASD does not currently provide a substantial number of free or subsidized s/n surgeries to the public on a regular basis. In Fiscal Year 2024, ASD performed 9,711 paid surgeries on the pets of the general public. Funding from this grant will allow ASD to offer roughly 400 additional surgeries, almost doubling the impact on the community. Since the Doral clinic has not consistently offered s/n surgeries since 2020, any additional surgeries performed using funds from this grant will result in an increase above the existing baseline.

Methods

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

Pet owners seeking these services must be Miami-Dade County residents. Furthermore, recipients of Food stamps, Medicaid, Aid to Families with dependent Children (AFDC), Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and Free or Reduced School Lunch are eligible for no cost surgeries.

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

ASD's communications team deploys campaigns that incorporate social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter), the Animal Services website, newsletters, emails to the County's 25,000+ employees, and press releases. ASD will conduct a targeted marketing campaign focused on identifying low-income communities. This will include creating flyers and information regarding the program and distributing information through local community-based social service agencies, and local government official's offices. ASD will issue press releases regarding the start of the program and promote monthly through social media. Additionally, Miami-Dade County's District Commission Offices also share information with their constituents about available services and have historically partnered with the Department to host events that help promote pet wellbeing and further ASD's lifesaving mission. Lastly, the County's contact center, 311, has information to link residents in need of services and help promote these special events.

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

Historically, ASD has brought out the Mobile Animal Clinic (MAC), hosted outreach spay and neuter events at its Homestead and Cutler Bay locations, and collaborated with other animal welfare organizations to serve underserved communities. ASD remains committed to improving access to low-cost and free sterilization services, addressing the challenges that pet owners face in obtaining essential care. All printed promotional and educational materials are prepared in English and Spanish to ensure market saturation and radio spots on Spanish and English radio will be created through the Department's communications team. To overcome illiteracy issues, we plan to create infographic flyers and posters that can create a visual example of what is being offered.

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

No. However, the Department may consider granting an exception in extenuating circumstances. ASD employs transport operators and animal welfare officers who have the necessary training and operate vehicles suitable for animal transport. Miami-Dade County is self-insured, but the Department would also request a release form granting authority to transport pets on behalf of their owners.

Veterinary Services

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

ASD's own veterinary team will be performing all surgeries.

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="\$63.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$63.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$63.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$63.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$63.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$63.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$63.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$63.00"/>

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 checked="" 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 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	<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	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
County License	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$3.00"/>
Ear tipping*	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Microchip	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Other	<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**

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:

The cost per surgery presented in this section is a rough estimate of the costs associated with sterilization surgery. ASD currently provides DAPPV/HCP vaccines, which are offered at no charge through a partnership with Petco Love. Side note relating to the above services: ASD has the Wellness on Wheels (WOW) offers free veterinary services to targeted areas. During outreach spay and neuter events, ASD offers these services for free to the public. ASD's main facility provides low-cost to discounted services to the Miami-Dade County residents.

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
County Commissioners	ASD has a fruitful relationship with each Commissioner's office and they assist the Department.
Friends of Miami Animals (FOMA)	ASD has a successful partnership with FOMA in assisting with large scale spay and neuter events at no charge to the public.
Local Media	ASD leverages its relationship with Telemundo, Revolution Radio 93.5, News Cafe, and other local media outlets to help publicize campaigns.

Other Information

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

At Miami-Dade County Animal Services, our mission is to save the lives of abandoned animals in our care, protect animals from cruelty, reunite lost pets with their owners, protect people and pets in our community from health-related issues, and ensure the public's safety. As Florida Animal Control Association's "2020 Outstanding Agency of the Year," we remain confident in our methods and proud of our results. Every year Animal Services provides care and refuge 15,000 lost, abandoned, injured, ill, or abused dogs and cats and affords vaccination and sterilization services to almost 20,000 free-roaming community cats. Every day, Animal Services staff work diligently to find life-long homes for these shelter animals by facilitating onsite adoptions, hosting offsite adoptions at events and locations throughout the community, and working collaboratively with rescue organizations, volunteers, and adoption partners. Increasing s/n and TNVR services is one of the Department Director's main priorities. Accessibility to all Miami-Dade County owned and homeless pets is an integral component in maintaining and increasing the department's success. To that end, ASD has begun their large-scale s/n campaigns - Operation Pit Stop, Snip, Tip Hooray!, Redland and ASD Dog Events - in which owned pets will be sterilized, vaccinated, and microchipped at no cost to the pet owner. Dates have been scheduled, and a waitlist has been established for those interested. While the possibility of returning to the full-scale s/n clinic in Doral is still being evaluated, ASD currently has the existing infrastructure, qualified staff, and community support to attain the goals outlined on this application and render s/n services by strategically scheduling events. By doing so, ASD can properly plan and align resources in a way that will not hinder normal operations.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 290 **Dogs:** 110

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$63.00

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

Miami-Dade County Animal Services will cover all salaries, promotional materials, and media coverage from its operating budget. The Department is the recipient of a large investment from the State of Florida to address the overpopulation through spay and neuter initiatives, as well as 1,000 weekly doses of DAPPV and FRCP vaccines from Petco Love, which can cover any unforeseen needs. Additionally, ASD's Outreach Coordinator and its Chief of Communications leverage their connections in the community to secure financial support or sponsorships for events. Lastly, pet owners seeking these free services can also make a small donation to support additional surgeries beyond the grant period.

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

2%

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.**

Providing spay and neuter surgeries for owned pets is an integral part of our life-saving approach at ASD. ASD's Grants Coordinator will continue to seek grant funds to reduce the barriers that may exist to responsible pet ownership. This grant will cover all projected consumables, and all other expenses will be covered by the operating budget. ASD generates revenue through the vaccine clinic, tags sales, and enforcement fines. The Department also receives a steady stream of unsolicited weekly small donations from constituents, and the Chief of Communications will secure more substantial funding and collaboration in support of the Department's priorities. Lastly, ASD's Outreach Coordinator is tasked with planning events that promote the most critical needs: increasing adoptions and offering veterinary services more readily available at low or no cost to the community in underserved areas.

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.**

The Department will issue a press release acknowledging the grant. ASD's Communications team uses social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter), the Animal Services website, newsletters, emails to the County's 25,000+ employees, and press releases to reach the intended audience. For example, the promotional requirements will be included in radio; lobby posters/displays and flyers/and or palm cards will be distributed in the shelter and throughout the community, and during community adoption and pet wellness events throughout the County. Additionally, our District Commission Offices can also share information with their constituents.

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

Unknown