

Grant ID: 2369

Title of Proposal: Prevent-A-Litter**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00**Check Payable To:** North Florida PAWS, Inc.

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: North Florida People for Animal Welfare Society, Inc. dba North Florida PAWS**Website Address:** FB: Hamilton Humane Society/North Florida PAWS**Person Submitting Proposal:** Katie Rooney**Position:** Vice President**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** northfloridapaws@windstream.net**Person Submitting Proposal Cell:** 386-223-7044**Organization Head:** Lori Johnson**Organization Head's Email:** northfloridapaws@windstream.net**Organization Business Address:** P. O. Box 9**City:** Jennings**State:** FL**Zip:** 32053-0009**Organization Business Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 386-223-7044**County:** Hamilton**Organization Head's Cell:** 386-855-2812

Agency Details

EIN:0% "> EIN: 59-3630469**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 02/14/2000**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/24 **End:** 12/31/24**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$8,911.92**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$8,783.40**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 0 Part Time: 0**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Previous Grant Recipient**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2006 2008 2010 2012 2014 2016 2018 2020 2022 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 0**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
136	2010	Pups & Kits Snip	Funded
322	2012	PET AID Spay Subsidy	Funded
1430	2014	Pit Bulls & Community Cats In Need	Funded

1604	2006		Funded
1605	2008		Funded
1662	2016	Fixin' Pitties and Kitties	Funded
1809	2018	SNIPPIN' Dogs & Cats (Spay Neuter Initiative for Pets and People In Need)	Funded
1919	2020	Be a P.A.L. (Prevent A Litter)	Funded
2070	2022	Prevent-a-Litter	Funded
2369	2025	Prevent-A-Litter	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
Lori Johnson	President

Applicant Qualifications**For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:****14 cats and 28 dogs were admitted.****13 cats and 27 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.****1 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.****14 cats and 28 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.**

North Florida PAWS, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization since 2000, has supported rescue and adoption programs through our own shelter/foster program and by assisting other municipal shelters and private non-profit rescues in our multi-county rural commuting area. In addition we operated our own low-cost spay/neuter clinic from 2007 to 2016. Since closing our clinic, we have continuously supported low-cost spay/neuter programs by North Florida PAWS and other groups needing our assistance. We manage a current grant to Hamilton County Animal Services serving Hamilton, Madison and Suwannee counties. The President Lori Johnson and Vice President Katie Rooney will be the primary individuals responsible for carrying out the grant. We have managed a number of spay/neuter grants, including fund raising for our on-going subsidized voucher program. Ms. Johnson has an extensive background in business, a former Animal Control Officer and experience as a graduate Veterinary Technician. Ms. Rooney retired as a Human Resources Manager and has many years experience managing North Florida PAWS organization including 10 years managing its Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic in Jennings, Florida. Plus 35 years as a professional Dog Trainer and Behavior Consultant volunteering with several animal shelters and currently training at the state prison in Jasper for 3 1/2 years with their education program "Hamilton Hounds' New Leash on Life" teaching inmates to train and rehabilitate dogs placed from a local animal shelter.

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

We have maintained a low-cost subsidized spay/neuter program since 2006 to assist low-income pet owners and feral cat colony caretakers get their dogs and cats sterilized. We continue to work with other municipal shelters and private non-profit rescues to obtain funding and manage their programs.

Number of animals sterilized in that program in the past year:**Cats:** 160 **Dogs:** 95

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.):

Columbia (32025 32026 32055 32061 32064), Hamilton (32052 32053 32054), Madison (32340 32341 32343 32351 32352) and Suwannee (32060 32064 32087 32095) Counties

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

Our primary target animal population are large dogs, particularly pit bulls and mixes, as well as pet and feral cats. In addition to feral cats, pit bulls and mixes and pet cats are most often outside full-time or at least part-time which puts them at high risk of causing or becoming pregnant. Survivors of these litters are often brought to overwhelmed local shelters and rescues who cannot handle the numbers. The others are doomed to death or a life of misery. The included counties are among the lowest in the state of Florida for an unusually high percentage of poverty rate, very high school drop out rate, and low per capita income. The number and size of animal shelters and rescues in our area are underfunded and inadequate to meet the needs of the human and animal populations.

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 three full service spay/neuter clinics in our area which are unable to handle the vast number of animals in need of sterilization. Also many pet owners and feral cat caretakers are unable to afford even their low prices. Non-profits clinics are: North Florida Animal Rescue & Vet Clinic and Suwannee Paws (not related to us) in Suwannee County and South Georgia Low-Cost Spay Neuter Clinic in Thomasville GA which serves our North Florida counties.

Objectives

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

The increase in the number of dogs and cats that would otherwise not be sterilized will reduce the number of unwanted, abused and neglected puppies and kittens in our service area. As before, data will be quantifiable because we keep meticulous records of applications and surgeries performed. We expect an excellent response because the entire cost of the surgeries at the participating low-cost clinics will be covered. The pet owner will only pay \$15 for the rabies shot if not current. North Florida PAWS will cover the rabies shot for special cases, including feral cats.

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

We expect to increase the number of subsidized spay/neuter surgeries by an estimated 400 dogs, particularly pit bulls and pit mixes, and pet and feral cats. Based on prior experience with FAF grants, this number may be larger if there are more cats or smaller if there are more dogs but the average estimate is reasonable. The additional dogs and cats sterilized will be those which would not otherwise be spayed or neutered.

Methods

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

Owners of pit bulls and pit mixes, pet cats and feral/community cat caretakers will automatically be eligible for vouchers because they are our most prevalent overpopulation problem. Owners of other pet dogs must show proof of receipt of one form of government assistance based on low-income status. This will include SNAP food stamps, Medicaid, SSI social security insurance, social security

disability, subsidized HUD housing, Head Start, 100% Veterans Disability, etc. Feral/Community Cat Caretakers must commit to continued care for sterilized cats and new cats that join their colony. Pet owners and caretakers must agree to periodic inspections.

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

We have found that posting flyers in English and Spanish on social media and in physical locations frequented by low-income individuals and families results in the best response. Public Service Announcements in local newspapers and on radio stations also get a good response in our rural area. Municipal shelters and rescues distribute flyers and applications too. In addition we have found that our having volunteers at the local Library twice monthly elicits an excellent response.

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

We always help with volunteer drivers for those without reliable transportation and have volunteers who are able to relate to residents in our large Hispanic population to overcome cultural and language barriers.

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

Volunteer transporters use their own vehicles and are required to provide proof of current insurance, provide a copy of their current Florida drivers license and sign a release of liability form. All animals must be secured in a carrier or trap. Volunteers without experience handling animals are paired with an experienced volunteer for orientation and training.

Veterinary Services

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

The Lead Veterinary Clinic is South Georgia Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic in Thomasville GA (only 20 miles north of the Florida/Georgia border). We have a years-long relationship with this excellent clinic.

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
South Georgia Low-Cost Spay Neuter Clinic	425 Covington Avenue	Thomasville	GA	31792	229-236-7297	<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. 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="\$35.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$35.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$60.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$60.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$80.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$95.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$95.00"/>

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 ☒ 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

Pain Medication* ☒ Required ☐ Optional ☐ Not Available ☒ No ☐ Yes

Parasite Medication ☐ Required ☒ Optional ☐ Not Available ☐ No ☒ Yes \$20.00

HW Testing ☐ Required ☒ Optional ☐ Not Available ☐ No ☒ Yes \$15.00

Feline Leuk/FIV ☐ Required ☐ Optional ☒ Not Available ☐ No ☒ Yes \$25.00

County License ☐ Required ☐ Optional ☒ Not Available ☒ No ☐ Yes

Ear tipping* ☒ Required ☐ Optional ☐ Not Available ☒ No ☐ Yes

Microchip ☐ Required ☐ Optional ☒ Not Available ☐ No ☒ Yes \$30.00

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:

Ear tip for feral and community cats mandatory at no charge. No additional charge for complications from surgery, e.g., pregnancy, infection, cryptorchid, etc. Preventive vaccines and medications optional at additional charge to pet owners/caretakers.

Is this a voucher program? Yes

If so, how will you assure utilization of the program?

Applications are submitted to assigned officials of North Florida PAWS along with proof of eligibility when required. The voucher is approved and assigned a number for follow-up. The recipient must submit the approved voucher to the clinic at appointment. The clinic invoices North Florida PAWS monthly with processed vouchers.

For your voucher program, how have you determined the capacity of the veterinarians listed above to handle the projected capacity?

The lead clinic is a well established, highly successful, and well staffed high-volume spay/neuter clinic with whom we have been associated for a number of years. They have proven fully capable of handling all surgeries approved under the grant. If needed, North Florida Animal Rescue & Vet Clinic in Suwannee County will accept our vouchers.

Will you have the ability to report the number of vouchers issued and the number redeemed for spay/neuter surgeries?

North Florida PAWS maintains a numerical log of all Vouchers issued, annotating when they are redeemed, and will have the necessary data to complete the final report.

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
Friends of Hamco Animal Shelter, Inc.	Along with the Hamilton County Animal Control & Services, promotes the voucher program and provides volunteers to support it.
Greene Publishing Company	Owner of two Madison County newspapers promotes spay/neuter and other animal welfare programs.
Hamilton County Animal Control Services	Will promote and support our Voucher Program to citizens of Hamilton County.
Lake City/Columbia County Humane Society	They will promote and support the voucher program as a new county added for the coming year.

Name	Level of Involvement
Live Oak Animal Control	City of Live Oak Animal Control promotes the voucher program to their citizens.
Madison County Animal Services	Under the Sheriff's Department, they promote the voucher program to their citizens.
Riverbend News	This Newspaper serves Hamilton and Suwannee County residents and continues to support our programs including the spay neuter subsidized program.
Suwannee County Animal Control	Under the Sheriff's Department, they promote the voucher program to their citizens.

Other Information

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

Our subsidized spay/neuter program targets low-income pet owners and feral/community cat caretakers who are unable to get their animals sterilized even at the non-profit clinics prices. We are committed to continue raising funds to make this program a sustainable and continuing success.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 250 **Dogs:** 150

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.

As a partner with 'Friends of Hamco Animal Shelter, Inc.' we continue fund raising activities to maintain this program above the portion funded by the FAF grant.

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

100%

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: 09/01/25/ **Projected end date:** 08/31/26

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.**

North Florida PAWS' Subsidized Spay/Neuter Program is a sustainable program through targeted donations, events, and partnering with local businesses and organizations to carry out fund-raising activities. 'Friends of Hamco Animal Shelter, Inc.' has particularly committed to continuous funding to help as many low-income pet owners and feral/community cat caretakers as possible. Our service area is very rural with high poverty levels.

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.**

We display Florida Animal Friend logo and contact information on all promotional materials, flyers, press releases, PSAs, social media, etc. Distribute FAF promotional materials at all events, animal shelters and rescues in the target area, and supporting businesses and organizations. We promote the purchase of specialty license plates.

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

9