

Grant ID: 2321

Title of Proposal: Fixing the Future Pasco County TNVR**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00**Check Payable To:** Runaways Animal Rescue

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Runaways Animal Rescue**Website Address:** www.runawaysanimalrescue.org**Person Submitting Proposal:** Erica Grant**Position:** Board Member**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** erica@runawaysanimalrescue.org**Person Submitting Proposal Cell:** 585-734-3710**Organization Head:** Danielle Giroux**Organization Head's Email:** dani@runawaysanimalrescue.org**Organization Business Address:** 8020 Washington St.**City:** Port Richey, FL**State:** FL**Zip:** 34668**Organization Business Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 727-753-8244**County:** Pasco County**Organization Head's Cell:** 813-453-5204

Agency Details

EIN:0% "> EIN: 84-4580695**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 03/10/2020**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/24 **End:** 12/31/24**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$644,328.28**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$527,345.48**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 3 Part Time: 2**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Mary Stafford, from Paw Warriors was the first person to bring the Florida Animal Friend Grant opportunity to the attention of Runaways Animal Rescue. Mary, being a true animal advocate, thought it would be a wonderful partnership for the community in conjunction with our new on-site veterinary clinic.**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 0 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 0**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
2321	2025	Fixing the Future Pasco County TNVR	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
Danielle Giroux	CEO, President and Founder

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

688 cats and 383 dogs were admitted.

633 cats and 389 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.

11 cats and 4 dogs were euthanized.

550 cats and 268 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.

The dedicated staff that we have to carry out our veterinary clinic is the same staff that will be responsible for carrying out our TNVR program. A community TNVR clinic is our highest priority, as this is how we can actively accomplish our goals and mission of advocating for the well being of all companion animals. Not only is our staff ready to carry out this program, we also have the commitment of our veterinarian and our veterinary technicians.

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

Our veterinary clinic just opened on February 10, 2025. Our main focus in the first couple of months of starting this clinic has been spay/neuter procedures of all our rescue animals at the shelter to prepare them for adoption into their forever home. With that said, we have slowly started TNVR for local feral and community cats and are so proud to say that to date we have completed 36 TNVR procedures at our facility. If approved for the Florida Animal Friend Grant, we are prepared to add a full TNVR day at our clinic every week. We have the full support of our community and cannot wait to reach the full potential of this program. We are confident this will make such a difference in our community for these animals.

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

Cats: 36 **Dogs:**

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.):

34667, 34674, 34669, 34668, 34652, 34655, 34653, 34654, 34656, 34690, 34691, 34692, 34610, 34667, 34669

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

The most substantial source of cat overpopulation in these areas are free roaming, unaltered, community feral and stray cats. This lack of sterilization results in frequent, uncontrolled breeding cycles. An unaltered female cat can produce several litters of kittens each year, and those kittens, if left unaltered, can perpetuate this unfortunate cycle. The absence of spay/neuter programs and humane population control methods exacerbates this issue, allowing the overpopulation to persist and grow.

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 there are only two clinics that participate in any kind of TNVR services in these target areas. The volume of TNVR services that are provided by these two clinics is limited. This has resulted in significant rapid growth of cat overpopulation. As a result, many communities are facing an ongoing cycle of uncontrolled breeding, leading to an increase in homeless cats and higher rates of animal suffering.

Objectives

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

Every day we receive multiple calls from concerned members of our community describing cats in the community that are injured, sick, hungry, and suffering. Although we rescued and adopted out 633 cats in 2024, without meaningful TNVR, we are not addressing the root cause of the problem. An unaltered female cat can produce several litters of kittens each year, and those kittens, if left unaltered, can perpetuate the cycle. The absence of spay/neuter programs and humane population control methods exacerbates this issue, allowing the overpopulation to persist and grow. The mission of Runaways Animal Rescue is The Runaways Animal Rescue exists to protect and advocate for all companion animals well-being and needs. If approved for this grant funding, we will reduce this overpopulation of cats and help to reduce this needless, ongoing, and uncontrolled suffering. We plan to have an extremely organized and targeted strategy to maximize resources and to effectively decrease the overpopulation of unaltered cats in the community.

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

Last year Runaways Animal Rescue partnered with Pasco County Animal Services at their pop up TNVR events to help sterilize 1000 cats. Then in February 2025, we started our very own veterinary clinic, on site at our shelter. TNVR is at the heart of our organization and we want to utilize our new facility to further this mission. If awarded, all funds would be dedicated to a one day per week TNVR clinic for community cats. We estimate that we would be able to sterilize 1000 cats in our veterinary clinic alone. Because this is the first year starting our own veterinary clinic, and have not previously offered TNVR services, this would be an additional 1,000 cats TNVR'd over the previous year. Pasco County is overrun with feral and unaltered cat populations. This program is desperately needed. We have every resource in place and are fully ready to carry out this plan.

Methods

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

Those who will be eligible for this program through this grant funding will be trusted rescue organizations who trap community cats and dedicated TNVR trappers in the community. Runaways Animal Rescue will become a consistent and reliable, spay and neuter veterinary resource for these trapped, unaltered, community cats.

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

Our program will be consistent and offered every Wednesday. Because of the consistency, we will reach out to each individual group to convey and offer our services. We are a tight knit community here in Pasco County and we will be excited to reach out to our rescue partners who have similar goals of controlling animal overpopulation and directly reducing animal suffering. We also plan to share on our social media platforms the work we are doing because of the support of Florida Animal Friends. The community is aware of our veterinary clinic starting, and we have been flooded with experienced trappers reaching out to us to ask when we will be starting a dedicated TNVR clinic.

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

Because we are so centrally located in the heart of the area we will be servicing, we do not expect transportation barriers. We also have existing relationships with the TNVR rescue persons, so communications are established and currently effective. We are also prepared to assist with transportation where needed.

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

TNVR trappers and TNVR rescue groups will be responsible for bringing the trapped community cats to us and picking them back up at the end of the day to be returned to their cat colonies. As mentioned above, we are also prepared to assist with outreach and transportation as needed.

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

Katie Emerson, DVM started as our in house veterinarian at Runaways Animal Rescue on February 10, 2025. Dr. Emerson is in agreement and will be scheduled for dedicated TNVR days on Wednesdays each week.

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="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>
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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input 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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input 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 type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Ear tipping*	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input 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:

n/a

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
Cat Haven Rescue	Cat Haven has a team of TNVR trappers who have committed to partnering with Runaways Animal Rescue for this program and its success of reducing the amount of unaltered cats in our community. Specifically, Cat Haven will identify colonies of unaltered cats in the community, trap, transport, and participate in our TNVR clinic days.
Pasco County Animal Services	Runaways Animal Rescue has a long standing history of positive collaboration with Pasco County Animal Services (PCAS). Both organizations are committed to serving Pasco County TNVR programs to help reduce the amount of homeless and suffering cats. We plan to maximize our resources in the community by utilizing our newly developed on site veterinary clinic.

Other Information

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

Runaways Animal Rescue will host a full day of TNVR clinic every Wednesday with any funds awarded from the Florida Animal Friend grant funding. We plan to have a high level of communication with local community trappers and rescue groups to maximize the impact we are able to have in the community. These funds will address an extreme unmet need here in Pasco County. Each day we receive numerous calls, emails, and social media outreach from members of the community about cats who are unaltered, continuing to breed and contributing to sickness and suffering. Initiating a dedicated TNVR clinic will allow us to address the problem at the source. We are very excited to utilize our brand new veterinary suite in our shelter to benefit the community and the animals we serve.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 1000 **Dogs:** 0

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$25.00

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

With Runaways Animal Rescue committing to \$25 of the \$50 projected cost for each surgery, funding will be provided for this project through: fundraising events, private donors, bequests, and corporate donations.

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

50%

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: 09/03/25/ **Projected end date:** 08/05/26

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.**

Part of the development of starting our own veterinary clinic is committing to TNVR services. We will be applying for additional grant funding opportunities ongoing. Additionally, donations received will be allocated toward this clinic to the future. Our veterinary clinic has helped us to reduce are largest budget line item and to dramatically reduce veterinary services secured at private clinics, which is associated with exorbitant costs. Starting our veterinary clinic enables our rescue to preserve our overall budget, allowing us to allocate dollars toward critical TNVR services to 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.**

Runaways Animal Rescue will fully promote the sale of the Florida Animal Friend License plate on our newsletter, website link and all of our social media platforms. Additionally, we will educate our staff and volunteers on the animal friend license plate opportunity and what this grant has provided to our community at our staff and volunteer trainings and meetings. We are also looking forward to additional suggestions from your marketing firm to increase awareness of the Florida Animal Friend license plate being available for purchase.

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

3 Volunteers