

Grant ID: 2391

Title of Proposal: From Intake to Impact: Targeted Cat Sterilization in Santa Rosa County**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00**Check Payable To:** A HOPE

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: A HOPE**Website Address:** www.ahope4src.com**Person Submitting Proposal:** Brandi Winkleman**Position:** Executive Director**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** ahope4src@gmail.com**Person Submitting Proposal Cell:** 850-861-6383**Organization Head:** Brandi Winkleman**Organization Head's Email:** ahope4src@gmail.com**Organization Business Address:** 6951 Pine Blossom Rd**City:** Milton**State:** FL**Zip:** 32570**Organization Business Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 850-795-2287**County:** Santa Rosa**Organization Head's Cell:** 850-861-6383

Agency Details

EIN:0% "> EIN: 82-2587109**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 09/01/2017**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/25 **End:** 12/31/25**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$512,774.00**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$412,297.00**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 8 Part Time: 0**How did you learn of the 2009****Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** We all have the license plates and follow FAF on social media.**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 4 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 0**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1765	2018	Reducing SRCAS Intake	Funded
1923	2020	Essential Care for Community Cats	Funded
2024	2022	Keeping It Affordable	Funded
2215	2024	No Kittens For Cattens	Funded
2391	2026	From Intake to Impact: Targeted Cat Sterilization in Santa Rosa County	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
Brandi Winkleman	President

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

1835 cats and 442 dogs were admitted.

97 cats and 0 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.

1 cats and 4 dogs were euthanized.

899 cats and 117 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.

A HOPE is a nonprofit organization focused on reducing pet overpopulation through accessible, high-quality spay/neuter services, with an emphasis on low-income individuals and community cat caregivers in Santa Rosa County. We operate a high-volume, high-quality spay/neuter clinic in Milton, Florida (Snip Happens), designed to remove barriers to care and deliver efficient, large-scale impact. In the last year, A HOPE served 1,835 cats and 442 dogs through a combination of spay/neuter and wellness services. Of those, 899 cats and 117 dogs were sterilized, reflecting our dual role as both a surgical and preventative care provider. This model allows us to reach animals at multiple stages—providing immediate medical support while also preventing future litters. Since opening, we have performed over 1,000 spay/neuter surgeries in six months—averaging more than 40 per week—demonstrating strong demand and proven capacity. In addition to sterilization, we provide vaccinations and microchipping to deliver comprehensive preventative care in a single visit. Our existing low-cost program serves both owned and free-roaming cats and supports Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) efforts by working with caregivers managing multiple cats. This program builds on an already operational model by further reducing financial barriers, allowing immediate conversion of funding into completed surgeries. The program is led by a licensed Florida Veterinarian of Record and supported by experienced high-volume surgeons, veterinary technicians, and trained staff. Our team is Fear Free certified and experienced in high-volume workflows, eligibility verification, and data tracking to ensure efficiency and accountability. A HOPE has the staffing, infrastructure, and demand to successfully implement this program. This funding will not be used to build capacity—it will be used to maximize an existing, proven system to deliver immediate, measurable results.

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

A HOPE operates a low-cost spay/neuter program through our high-volume clinic serving Santa Rosa County and surrounding areas. We provide reduced-cost services for both owned and community cats, with lower rates for outdoor cats brought in by caregivers. Services include sterilization, rabies vaccination, and ear tipping for identification. We also offer additional subsidies for individuals experiencing financial hardship when funding is available and support Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) efforts by working with caregivers managing multiple cats. Our clinic is structured for high-volume capacity and has already demonstrated strong demand, completing over 1,000 spay/neuter surgeries within the first six months of operation. While our program reduces cost barriers, many low-income individuals still cannot access services, resulting in continued reproduction—especially among free-roaming cats. Funding from Florida Animal Friend will allow us to expand this existing program by increasing the number of no-cost and deeply subsidized surgeries, reaching more unsterilized cats and creating immediate impact. Our program is established, operational, and ready to scale.

Number of animals sterilized in that program in the past year:**Cats:** 899 **Dogs:** 117

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.):

Santa Rosa County, Florida, including Milton (32570), Pace (32571), Navarre (32566), Gulf Breeze (32563), and surrounding areas. The program targets low-income individuals caring for cats, focusing on high-need, high-growth areas with large unsterilized free-roaming populations to maximize reduction in overpopulation.

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

The primary drivers of dog and cat overpopulation in Santa Rosa County are rapid population growth, ongoing development, high community mobility, and limited access to affordable spay/neuter services—especially for low-income individuals. New construction in previously wooded areas displaces outdoor cats, increasing reproduction and colony expansion. Population growth also brings more unsterilized pets into the area. A highly mobile population, including military families, contributes through frequent rehoming and, at times, animals being left behind. A key factor is unsterilized animals cared for by low-income individuals who lack access to affordable services, resulting in ongoing litters and population growth. The issue is not a lack of compassion, but a lack of access. Expanding affordable spay/neuter services is critical to reducing overpopulation at its source.

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?

Santa Rosa County has limited access to affordable, high-volume spay/neuter services. A HOPE's clinic in Milton helps address this need, but demand still exceeds capacity—especially in the southern part of the county. Distance and cost remain major barriers, particularly for individuals caring for multiple outdoor cats. Many caregivers do not identify as pet owners, further limiting access for free-roaming cats. Private veterinary services typically cost \$200–\$600 per surgery, which is not affordable for many low-income individuals. There remains a clear gap in accessible services. Expanding subsidized spay/neuter is critical to reducing overpopulation.

Objectives

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

With \$25,000, our objective is to maximize sterilizations per dollar by targeting cats in low-income areas driving reproduction in Santa Rosa County. Using a subsidy model (\$60 outdoor / \$75 indoor), we will sterilize approximately 333 cats, primarily free-roaming. All cats will receive rabies vaccination, and 100% of indoor cats will be microchipped. The program prioritizes high-volume caregivers and high-need areas. Objectives include increasing access for low-income individuals, reducing community-level reproduction through targeted TNR, and preventing future litters. This approach delivers immediate impact while creating long-term reductions in overpopulation.

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

This program increases sterilizations above baseline by removing cost barriers for low-income caregivers. While A HOPE offers low-cost services, many individuals—especially those caring for multiple cats—still cannot afford care, resulting in delayed or missed surgeries. By subsidizing costs, this program reaches a new, underserved population that would not otherwise access services. The required co-pay improves follow-through and reduces no-shows. Because funding is used as a partial subsidy, each dollar supports more surgeries, increasing total volume and targeting the cats most responsible for ongoing reproduction.

Methods

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

Eligibility is based on financial need and residency in Santa Rosa County. Clients must show low-income status through government assistance (e.g., SNAP, Medicaid, SSI, WIC), pay stubs, or documented hardship. Priority is given to individuals caring for multiple cats, free-roaming cats, and those participating in TNR. Clients must schedule in advance, pay a small co-pay, and follow transport protocols (carriers or traps). This ensures funding is directed to those with the greatest need while maximizing completed surgeries and overall impact.

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

We will use a targeted, multi-channel outreach strategy to reach low-income individuals caring for cats in Santa Rosa County. Primary outreach will be social media, including boosted posts, local Facebook groups, and Nextdoor, where caregivers actively seek help. We will also distribute flyers in high-traffic locations such as feed stores, community centers, laundromats, and veterinary clinics. Our network of community cat caregivers, volunteers, and partners will provide direct referrals and word-of-mouth outreach. Messaging will be simple and action-oriented, ensuring the program reaches high-need individuals and results in strong participation.

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

We address barriers beyond cost to ensure full participation. For transportation, we coordinate scheduling for multiple cats and work with volunteers and caregivers to assist when needed. Clear, simple communication—using visuals and step-by-step guidance—ensures accessibility for individuals with literacy challenges, with phone support available. We use inclusive, non-judgmental messaging to reach caregivers who may not identify as pet owners. A small co-pay encourages commitment and reduces no-shows. By combining flexible scheduling, clear communication, and community support, we make the program accessible to those most in need.

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

This program is primarily designed for clients to transport their own animals. However, limited transportation support may be provided on a case-by-case basis. For caregivers managing multiple cats or participating in TNR, we may coordinate with volunteers or community partners when transportation is a barrier. All animals are transported safely using appropriate carriers or humane traps in accordance with clinic protocols. While not a core component, this flexible approach helps remove barriers and ensures more animals can access services.

Veterinary Services

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

A HOPE provides veterinary coverage through a licensed Florida Veterinarian of Record and a team of experienced, high-volume relief surgeons. The Veterinarian of Record oversees medical protocols, compliance, and quality assurance. Relief veterinarians support consistent surgical capacity and scheduling flexibility in a high-volume environment. All veterinarians are licensed and insured and work alongside trained veterinary technicians and assistants skilled in anesthesia, patient preparation, and recovery. This structure ensures reliable coverage and the ability to perform a high volume of surgeries safely and efficiently.

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	\$25.00	\$60.00	\$85.00
Range for Female Cats	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$125.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00

Range for Female Dogs

\$200.00

\$0.00

\$200.00

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 \$20.00**Pain Medication*** ☒ Required ☐ Optional ☐ Not Available☒ No ☐ Yes**Parasite Medication** ☐ Required ☒ Optional ☐ Not Available☐ No ☒ Yes \$25.00**HW Testing** ☐ Required ☒ Optional ☐ Not Available☐ No ☒ Yes \$25.00**Feline Leuk/FIV** ☐ Required ☐ Optional ☒ Not Available☐ No ☒ Yes \$30.00**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:

Ear tipping is required for community cat packages. Our price is \$125 for the indoor cats and \$85 for outdoor cats. Both packages include surgery, rabies vaccination, pain medication, and required services.

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
Community Cat Caregivers	Provide identification of high-density colonies, assist with trapping, and coordinate bringing multiple cats for sterilization. These individuals are critical to reaching free-roaming cat populations at scale.
Community-Based Organizations and Local Businesses	Support outreach efforts by allowing distribution of program materials in high-traffic locations and helping connect us with individuals in need of services.
Local Rescue Organizations	Partner with A HOPE by referring low-income clients, assisting with Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) efforts, and helping identify areas with high numbers of unsterilized cats.
Santa Rosa County Animal Services	Referral of residents in need of low-cost spay/neuter services and collaboration on community cat population management efforts.
Veterinary Clinics and Pet Supply/Feed Stores	Assist with program visibility by sharing information, displaying flyers, and referring clients who cannot afford traditional veterinary pricing.
Volunteers and Supporters	Assist with outreach, education, and, when needed, transportation coordination for individuals facing barriers to accessing services.

Other Information

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

This program is designed for immediate implementation using an already operational, high-volume clinic with proven demand. Funding will be rapidly converted into completed surgeries, directly reducing reproduction in the highest-impact populations. By combining targeted outreach, a cost-sharing model, and established infrastructure, this program ensures both immediate results and long-term sustainability.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 333 **Dogs:** 0

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$76.00

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

This program is supported by client co-pays, individual donations, and ongoing fundraising. The shared-cost model allows funds to stretch further while increasing commitment and reducing no-shows. A HOPE maintains an active donor base, including monthly supporters, and conducts targeted fundraising campaigns to support spay/neuter services. A portion of the organization's operating budget also subsidizes care when needed. We will continue pursuing additional grants and partnerships to expand access. This combined approach ensures the program is sustainable and not dependent on a single funding source.

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

60

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: 09/01/26/ **Projected end date:** 08/31/27

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.**

A HOPE will sustain this program through a diversified funding model that includes client co-pays, donations, grants, and clinic revenue. The shared-cost structure ensures each surgery is partially supported, allowing funds to stretch further. We maintain an active donor base, including monthly supporters, and conduct ongoing fundraising campaigns. Revenue from low-cost clinic services also supports operations. We will continue pursuing additional grants and partnerships to expand access. This multi-source approach ensures long-term sustainability and reduces reliance on any single funding stream.

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.**

A HOPE will promote the Florida Animal Friend license plate through social media, email, website content, and on-site signage. Messaging will connect each plate purchase to spay/neuter impact, with clear calls to action. We will include promotion in newsletters, client communications, and community outreach, and share materials through local partners and events. Press releases and media opportunities will further expand awareness. All efforts will be documented through screenshots, links, and printed materials for final reporting. This integrated approach ensures consistent visibility and community engagement.

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

10