

Grant ID: 2430

Title of Proposal: Feed them Fix them Nassau**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$20,000.00**Check Payable To:** Cats Angels Inc. SPCA

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Cats Angels Inc. SPCA**Website Address:** www.catsangels.org**Person Submitting Proposal:** Sherry Merritt**Position:** Exec. Director**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** sherry.catsangels@gmail.com**Person Submitting Proposal Cell:** 904-673-0892**Organization Head:** Sherry Merritt**Organization Head's Email:** info@catsangels.org**Organization Business Address:** 709 S. 8th St**City:** Fernandina**State:** fl**Zip:** 32034**Organization Business Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 904-673-0892**County:** nassau**Organization Head's Cell:** 904-673-0892

Agency Details

EIN:0% "> EIN: 593724894**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 06/08/2008**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/25 **End:** 12/31/25**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$410,999.00**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$295,642.00**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 1 Part Time: 3**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Various spay/neuter programs back in 2008**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2024 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 0**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
175	2010	TNR/SPAY NASSAU	Denied
261	2011	Spay Nassau	Funded
1908	2020	SPAY NASSAU	Funded
2046	2022	SPAY THEM ALL	Funded
2235	2024	Spay A Stray Nassau	Funded

2430

2026

Feed them Fix them Nassau

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
Sherry Merritt	Exec. Director

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

241 cats and 0 dogs were admitted.

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

1 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

241 cats and 0 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.

Our Exec. Director will be in charge of the program as she has been for the last 7 years. We have managed a small spay/enuter program within our organization for the past 25 years and have helped spay/neuter almost 25,000 cats. We have a dedicated van for transport to Every Pet for surgery and a dedicated climate control recovery room for ferals.

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

Yes. We have a dedicated holding and recovery room for feral cats. We also just redesigned our website so that we can serve a higher volume of requests for pet and feral cats that need our spay/neuter program. We currently schedule and transport up to 25 pet and feral cats to Every Pet for surgeries.

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

Cats: 946 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.):

Yulee, Briceville, Callahan, Hilliard, Nassauville, Fernandina

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

We have a transport spay/neuter program that targets TNR for cats and lower costs spay/neuter services our low-income community. Our most substantial sources of cat overpopulation in our targeted area in our targeted area are the rural areas of Nassau County where community members have allowed multiple of seasons of breeding to take place that has resulted in feral or community cats in abundance.

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?

Private and corporate clinics are only available in our areas. They charge between \$300 and more to spay/neuter cats. This creates a barrier because it becomes unaffordable when people have many cats. Also, clinics are not equipped and trained to perform high volume spay/neuters. Our local private clinics only perform 1 to 3 surgeries per week on cats and dogs.

Objectives

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

Our goal is to spay/neuter 1,500 cats in our community. This would help us achieve our overall goal of spay/neutering over 1,000 cats this year. We also want to continue to keep our shelters in Nassau stay no-kill. Knowing that we now have more than 65,000 new homes built in our community, we want to increase our spay/neuter volume to keep up with the growth.

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

This program will help us boost and target larger populations of colony cats and owned cats. Our goal has been to neuter 1,000 cats and if given the grant, we could increase this to 1,500 or more.

Methods

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

The locations to be serviced by this grant are for vicinities in the Northeast of Nassau County, Hilliard, Callahan, Briceville, and one area in Fernandina Beach located off Old Nassauville Rd. The target areas are rural residential communities with some commercial development. The targeted areas include predominantly low-income households that do not have access to affordable spay/neuter support from any provider other than Cats Angels, Inc. Also, the number of requests received by Cats Angels from residents and business owners in these areas requesting spay/neuter control of feral and community cat populations.

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

We will advertise on social media, our website, and local newspapers. Also, we will make flyers for the program and post these in our community (Animal services, FCNHP, Humane Society, Grocery Stores, and food banks).

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

We provide traps, transportation, carriers, and food. We also provide written material in Spanish

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

Cats Angels has a dedicated van that is used in trapping and transporting cats from the trapping site to surgery. We have each owner sign a liability waver when we transport their cats. Cats Angels offers volunteer trapping classes to the public, volunteers, and animal control. Cats Angels also has a dedicated room that is specifically designed with climate control to care for cats pre and post surgery recovery

Veterinary Services

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

First Coast No more Homeless Pets "Every Pet" reserves every Wednesday for us to bring in 25 or more animals in for spay/neuter services. We also have a voucher program for people to bring the animals in at their convenience. We also partner with Nassau Humane Society for TNR Tuesdays.

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
First Coast NoMore Homeless Pets/"Every Pet"	6817 Norwood Avenue	Jacksonville	Fl	32208	904-425-0005	☒
Nassau Humane Society	671 Airport Rd	Fernandina	Florida	32034	904-321-2267	☐

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	\$10.00	\$62.00	\$72.00
Range for Female Cats	\$10.00	\$75.00	\$85.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$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	☒ 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
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:

We will pay \$60 to 70 per feral cat. If the people cant pay per pet, we will cover the costs.

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
Nassau County Animal Services	Partner is TNR trapping and s/n cats, advertise about the license plate, and educate about s/n importance
Nassau Humane Society	Partner in TNR with cats and helping educate the public
Red Bones Dog Bakery	Educate and provide information about s/n services with the license plate grant

Other Information

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

We are an organization that has been in existence for 25 years and has helped spay/neuter 25,000 cats. We take TNR and low-cost spay/neuter seriously. Our call volume consists of 25 to 30 people calling each week for spay/neuter each week. Once the need is established, we have a team of trained volunteers that help trap the cats and bring them to Cats Angels. If the cats are pets, we verify their low-income eligibility. Next, we have a scheduled dedicated day that we bring them to First Coast No More Homeless Pets/Every Pet in our dedicated van. Lastly, once they are spay/neutered the feral cats recover at Cats Angels before being released.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 285 **Dogs:** 0

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$20,000.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$71.00

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

Our Thrift Store, annual fundraising event, and donors will help fund any more expenses that are acquired as we also have room in the budget.

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

90

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: 10/01/26/ **Projected end date:** 04/30/27

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.**

We have two big fundraisers each year and together they raise about \$11,000. We have a thrift store that generates about half of our funding each year. We also have quarterly newsletters, and an end of year appeal letter that generates the remainder of our budget.

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 promote the sale of the license plate grant by publishing the positive benefits of purchasing a license plate and how it helps support spay/neuter in our community and around the state of Florida. We share this information in our newsletter that we mail out to over 700 supporters. We write articles and send to the newspaper about the grant and license plates. We also publish info on social media such as facebook. This year, we are promoting that if any buys an animal license plate, we will give them a FREE Cats Angels t-shirt!

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

30