

Grant ID: 2457

Title of Proposal: Snip Happens**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00**Check Payable To:** SGI Cat Allies, Inc

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: SGI Cat Allies, Inc**Website Address:** Sgicatallies.com**Person Submitting Proposal:** Cathy Buell**Position:** President**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** Raydey@aol.com**Person Submitting Proposal Cell:** 404-229-3989**Organization Head:** Cathy Buell**Organization Head's Email:** cathybuell17@gmail.com**Organization Business Address:** 234 Prado St.**City:** Apalachicola**State:** Florida**Zip:** 32320**Organization Business Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 850-888-0499**County:** Franklin**Organization Head's Cell:** 404-229-3989

Agency Details

EIN:0% "> EIN: 47-1636160**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:****Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/25 **End:** 12/31/25**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$49,220.00**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$42,824.00**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 0 Part Time: 0**How did you learn of the 2009****Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Originally from Audrey Garrison, Director of Operation Catnip, Gainesville, Florida**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2017, 2024 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 0**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1655	2016	Operation S.O.S. (Snip or Spay)	Denied
1734	2017	Operation Nip it in the Bud	Funded
2262	2024	Franklin Forgotten Ferals	Funded
2457	2026	Snip Happens	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
Cathy Buell	President

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

- 0 cats and 0 dogs were admitted.
 0 cats and 0 dogs were adopted, transferred, or other live outcome.
 0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.
 0 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.

SGI Cat Allies, collaborates with established spay/neuter providers, including Operation Spay Bay and Operation Catnip, to ensure access to high-quality veterinary services for its TNVR program. Under the leadership of President Cathy Buell, the organization has accumulated 13 years of successful trapping experience and has developed an efficient, community-based approach to managing free roaming cat populations. To date, SGI Cat Allies, has facilitated the sterilization and vaccination of approximately 2890 local cats, demonstrating both sustained impact and the ability to deliver measurable results. This strong track record, combined with established, veterinary partnerships, and experienced personnel, positions the organization to effectively implement, and scale a grant-funded TNVR program.

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

Since gaining our 501 C3 charity status in April 2015, SGI Cat Allies, has TNVR 2,890 local felines, at low or no cost to the caregivers.

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

Cats: 414 Dogs: 0

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.):

St. George Island, Eastpoint, Apalachicola and Kara Bell, Florida

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

Franklin County Florida is among the poorest counties in the state of Florida. Because few caregivers can afford to S/N community cats, the free roaming feline population will continue to grow without our help. Rural population centers in Franklin County are hotspots for hungry, breeding-aged cats.

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?

Locally, Apalachicola Bay Animal Clinic in Eastpoint is the only Franklin County veterinary clinic. Because they are a private clinic, they can offer us very few low cost S/N appointments. Franklin County citizens either have to pay several hundred dollars for surgery, or trap/transport their cats 60 miles, to/from Operation Spay Bay in Panama City. Few caregivers have the knowledge or skill to trap unsocialized cats.

Objectives

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

If funded, our goal is to use these funds to spay/neuter/vaccinate 400 local cats from Sept. 2026-Aug. 2027.

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

Funding from this program will cover the cost of surgery for community cats that would not otherwise take place as the target population of caregivers does not have easy access to low-cost services in the local community.

Methods

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

Cat caregivers must be Franklin County residents.

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

SGI Cat Allies will promote the Florida Animal Friends grant-funded spay/neuter program through a combination of digital and community-based outreach. Social media posts and local online groups will announce events and provide registration details, including a link to our online registration platform. We will continue to partner with Operation Spay Bay and Operation Catnip to expand outreach and reinforced credibility. Messaging will highlight that services are low cost, humane and accessible, ensuring maximum participation from the target audience.

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

Operation Spay Bay transports Cats from our holding facility in Eastpoint, to and from OSB clinic in Panama City. Local transportation of cats is provided by our local volunteers, and the use of our minivan. We provide clear, accessible and culturally sensitive communication materials in the form of flyers and door hangers. Simple language and visuals to convey key instructions for participation, ensure comprehension, regardless of literacy level. Volunteers provide direct, in-person support, assisting residents with registration, scheduling and understanding program procedures. Trusted local community members and colony caregivers relay information, answer questions, and encourage participation among residents who may be unfamiliar with TNVR practices.

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

Yes, approximately 90% of cats coming into our care are transported by our volunteers.

Veterinary Services

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

Operation Spay Bay, Panama City, facilitates our monthly (30 cat) surgeries, as well as high volume (140+) surgeries, 3–4 times per year.

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
Operation Spay Bay	3610 14th St.	Panama City	Florida	32404	850-215-1022	☒

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	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
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:

Each cat receives pain meds, FVRCP, rabies vax and ear tip while under sedation for surgery.

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
Apalachicola Bay Animal Clinic	Assist, as needed.
Franklin county animal control	Contacts SGI Cat Allies when locals request cat trapping..
Franklin County Humane Society	Mutually supportive, when necessary.

Other Information

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

SGI Cat Allies, has tripled our trapping capacity by purchasing 175 new Tru-catch humane traps in the last six months. Our 200 trap inventory enables us to schedule 3-4 high volume trapping events yearly, several months in advance, and ensure that highly skilled local and out-of-state volunteers are available. Volunteers LOVE to come to the Forgotten Coast and work long hard hours toward our common goal of 140+ TNVR cats in a four-day event!

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 400 **Dogs:** 0

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.

Because Apalachicola is a tourist favorite and hosts many local festivals, we have numerous opportunities to raise funds at these events. Additional grants from large organizations and private donations help us fund our expenses.

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

75%

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.**

We have applied to be the designated beneficiary organization for the upcoming Apalachicola PorchFest celebration in October, 2026 which typically provides \$30,000+ in support. SGI Cat Allies is a donation-driven, volunteer – powered organization that pairs grassroots financial support with occasional foundation, grants and event fundraising to sustain operations and expand TNVR services. Because Apalachicola and St. George Island are tourist destinations, we have numerous festivals, providing fundraising opportunities. To supplement the grant, the organization will draw on private donations, foundation, grants and community fundraising events, ensuring that any costs not covered by the grant are fully supported.

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.**

In addition to FAF license plates proudly displayed on volunteers vehicles, we also will provide FAF informational material in our booth at local festivals. We will also promote FAF license plates on our Facebook page, accompanied by pictures and proof of support!

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

5