

Grant ID: 2422

Title of Proposal: Free Spay Neuter Program**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$24,963.00**Check Payable To:** St. Augustine Humane Society

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: St. Augustine Humane Society**Website Address:** https://www.staughumane.org/**Person Submitting Proposal:** Krista Brown**Position:** Development Director**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** Development@staughumane.org**Person Submitting Proposal Cell:** 585-260-0868**Organization Head:** Carolyn Smith**Organization Head's Email:** admin1@staughumane.org**Organization Business Address:** 1665 Old Moultrie Road**City:** St. Augustine**State:** Florida**Zip:** 32084**Organization Business Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 904-829-2737**County:** St. Johns**Organization Head's Cell:** 904-315-0625

Agency Details

EIN:0% "> EIN: 59-1324680**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 01/01/2002**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/25 **End:** 12/31/25**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$1,452,106.12**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$1,419,421.06**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 11 Part Time: 12**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** We are a previous recipient**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2010, 2011, 2013**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
133	2010	St. Augustine Humane Society Spay/Neuter Assistance Grant	Denied
262	2011	Stray and Feral Cat Fix	Denied
364	2013	Fix-it Fund for Low Income Pet Owners and Displaced Housecats	Denied

1420	2014	Onsite Spay and Neuter Clinic	Funded
1677	2016	Free Spay Neuter Program	Funded
1799	2018	Free Spay Neuter Program	Funded
1916	2020	Free Spay Neuter Program	Funded
2073	2022	Free Spay Neuter Program	Funded
2259	2024	Free Spay Neuter Program	Funded
2422	2026	Free Spay Neuter Program	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
Ron Brown	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.****1953 cats and 764 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 organization, which made a transition from a traditional shelter to a community-based resource center in 2009, has made it our priority to ensure that there is a reduction in unnecessary pet relinquishment and shelter intake. Our main programs include a high-volume, high-quality spay/neuter program, a low-cost wellness program, a Pet Food Pantry, and collaborative behavioral support programs with professional dog trainers. These programs directly impact the most common reasons for pet relinquishment to shelters. In 2025, our medical team was able to sterilize 1,953 cats and 764 dogs, amounting to 2,717 spay/neuter surgeries. These numbers not only show the demand for our services in the community but also demonstrate our ability to deliver these services efficiently while maintaining a high standard of medicine. Our medical program is run by Dr. Lauren Rockey, an experienced high-volume spay/neuter veterinarian who can perform as many as 40 sterilization surgeries in a single day while maintaining strict surgical and anesthesia protocols. Dr. Rockey is assisted by Dr. Michele Nelligan and Dr. Kevin Eastman, who are able to commit to a consistent part-time schedule. Executive Director Carolyn Smith, who has served in this position since 2011, oversees all aspects of financial management, compliance, and planning. Operations Manager Jeannie McLain, who has served in this position since 2012, oversees all aspects of clinic operations, including staffing, clinical and quality control procedures. This experienced leadership team ensures long-term stability for our organization. Our medical staff includes six experienced veterinary technicians. We also utilize trained volunteer recovery and instrument technicians. In addition, we expanded and renovated our surgical facility in 2020. This expansion allowed us to add more equipment to our facility. We now have four heated surgical tables, six anesthesia machines, three M-11 autoclaves, and over 125 surgical instrument packs. This allows us to efficiently operate at a high surgical volume while maintaining a sterile environment. With our existing infrastructure, leadership, high surgical volume, and demand for our services,

we believe we have the staff, systems, and operational capacity to implement and manage this program successfully. Florida Animal Friends' investment will result in a direct reduction in unintended litters and shelter intake in our community.

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 organization has a well-established low-cost and no-cost spay/neuter program, which directly supports the mission of Florida Animal Friend, namely, to increase cat/dog sterilization rates beyond the current baseline, thereby reducing overpopulation problems. We have been successful in increasing our capacity over the years since the establishment of our program after the ASPCA Spay/Neuter Alliance training in Asheville, NC, in 2015. In 2025, we performed 2,717 sterilizations (1,953 cats, 764 dogs), reflecting our continued growth in providing high-volume, high-quality services to pets that otherwise might not be able to afford this vital procedure. We run two days a week at our spay/neuter clinic and three days a week at our wellness clinic. We are committed to providing affordable services at all times, including when Florida Animal Friend grant funding is not available, by providing low-cost services and using a dedicated internally allocated medical fund to subsidize services for financially vulnerable pet owners. In 2025, we provided funds from our general operating budget and direct community donations to ensure eligible pet owners can receive surgery and wellness services at no cost to them. We also partner with Street Dog Coalition to serve the pets of people who are homeless. This not only serves an underserved population but also helps Florida Animal Friend achieve its goals of making a broader impact within the community and expanding access to services beyond our typical client base. By leveraging our strong baseline metrics (high surgical volume), providing a stable funding model and subsidization program, and expanding access to vulnerable populations within our community, our spay/neuter services directly align with Florida Animal Friend's goals to sterilize more pets than our baseline numbers, to provide access to services for low-income families and underserved pets within our community, and to support programs that make a measureable impact on pet overpopulation within our service area.

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

Cats: 1953 **Dogs:** 764

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. Johns County

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

For our target service area, the greatest contributors to dog and cat overpopulation are our high numbers of non-sterilized dogs and cats, as well as those who are unable to afford veterinary services, which results in uncontrolled breeding, stray animal populations, and increased shelter intakes. Local shelter data for St. Johns County Pet Center indicates that, in 2025, this shelter had a total of 1,103 dog intakes and 1,711 cat intakes, making a total of 2,814 dog and cat intakes for this municipal shelter. These high shelter intakes demonstrate that, despite our efforts to increase adoptions, reproduction of our community's pet population is a continuing problem. One of the main contributors to shelter intakes is uncontrolled breeding of owned animals whose owners are unable to afford spay/neuter surgery for their pets. Despite our community's availability of low-cost spay/neuter services, many pet owners are unable to afford these services, which results in uncontrolled breeding of their animals, as well as those who are unable to afford veterinary services and therefore relinquish their pets to animal control. The second main source of overpopulation is free-roaming cats. This is because, unless there is a presence of Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) programs, community cat spay/neuter services, unowned and semi-owned cats continue to breed uncontrollably, significantly adding to shelter intakes and overall population growth. Other communities in Florida have been studied, and research indicates that feral and community cats, who are mostly intact, are producing a disproportionate number of kittens each year, which are then entering our shelter system. Lastly, a lack of understanding, transportation issues, appointment availability, and a lack of education about the importance of early spay/neuter services before pets reach reproductive age are all contributors to a system of unintended litters and repeated intakes at our local shelter. It is believed that by addressing these underlying causes of shelter intakes, we can significantly reduce our overall shelter population, improve our live release numbers, and sustainably manage our shelter population growth in St. Johns County.

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?

In St. Johns County, spay/neuter services are available through private veterinary practices, our organization's high-volume clinic, and limited nonprofit or rescue-based efforts. Although these services are essential to animal welfare, they are still not adequate to meet the full demand for these services, particularly for low-income families and cat caregivers. Private veterinary practices offer spay/neuter services; however, full-service costs are not feasible for many families. With increasing costs for veterinary services, surgery is no longer within reach for families living paycheck to paycheck, for seniors living on a fixed income, or for those who have experienced a temporary setback. Consequently, many owned pets are not sterilized until a surprise litter is born. We offer high-volume spay/neuter services two days a week from our organization's clinic, resulting in 2,717 sterilizations in 2025: 1,953 cats and 764 dogs. In contrast, the St. Johns County Pet Center accepted 2,814 dogs and cats in 2025: 1,103 dogs and 1,711 cats. Although

sterilization services from our organization mirror shelter intake volume on a yearly basis, the fact is that shelter intake has not decreased to a level where services are outpacing reproduction and surrender. To significantly reduce shelter intake, sterilization services must exceed current shelter intake numbers to reach these pets before they reproduce. This is particularly evident in the feline population, where over 60% of total intake (1,711 out of 2,814) were feline-based, indicative of the ongoing breeding patterns of the free-roaming/community cat population. While we performed 1,953 cat sterilizations in 2025, the demand for community cat services still outpaces our appointment availability, particularly during peak breeding seasons. Furthermore, appointment backlog, transportation issues, surgery days, and the lack of a fully funded county-wide TNR infrastructure also hinder access to timely sterilization services. In conclusion, while the foundational services are in place, the current capacity is not sufficient to impact the overall shelter intake in a meaningful way. Increased spay/neuter funding is crucial in increasing our spay/neuter surgeries beyond the current baseline, as well as addressing the population most likely to contribute to the shelter intake in the first place.

Objectives

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

The \$25,000 investment from Florida Animal Friend will allow us to complete an additional 458 targeted sterilizations, which include 379 cats and 79 dogs, above our existing baseline capacity. These additional sterilizations will be focused on serving low-income pet owners, community cats, and other underserved populations that are most likely to contribute to shelter intake if not sterilized. In 2025, we completed a total of 2,717 sterilizations, including 1,953 cats and 764 dogs. We anticipate that with the Florida Animal Friend funding, we will be able to increase our total sterilization volume in the upcoming grant cycle. This demonstrates a measurable expansion of our services, as opposed to maintaining existing capacity. This expansion is particularly critical for St. Johns County, as the municipal shelter received a total of 2,814 dogs and cats in 2025, including 1,103 dogs and 1,711 cats. We want to ensure that our sterilization volume exceeds intake volume, a critical benchmark for reducing shelter populations instead of just maintaining a status quo that perpetuates the need for more sterilizations in the long term. Of the additional 458 sterilizations funded through this grant: A minimum of 80% will be for pets of low-income individuals or people experiencing economic hardship. Our measurable goals include: Completing an additional 458 sterilizations within the grant period. Removing a financial barrier for at least 400 low-income individuals. Increasing total sterilization volume by at least 18% above 2025 levels. Contributing to a measurable trend towards reduced feline intake at the St. Johns County Pet Center during the next grant period. The Florida Animal Friend funding will not replace existing service, but instead will actually expand service capacity, shorten wait times, and target the highest need populations at risk for shelter intake.

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

Our current capacity, established as our 2025 baseline, is 2,717 surgeries, consisting of 1,953 cat surgeries and 764 dog surgeries, with our primary source of revenue being the reduced fees from our clients, supplemented by limited internal subsidies. This represents a significant positive impact, but the surgeries performed are still contingent upon the clients' ability to pay our reduced fees. The \$25,000 Florida Animal Friend grant will be used to provide 458 additional sterilizations, consisting of 379 cats and 79 dogs, targeting low-income families, community cats, and other undeserved populations who cannot afford even our reduced fees. We will see an increase targeting the statistically most likely populations to contribute to unwanted litters. For comparison, the St. Johns County Pet Center received 2,814 animals in 2025. Our current sterilization number is virtually identical to our intake number. This means we are currently keeping pace with the intake, but not yet surpassing it at a level that will allow us to achieve reductions. If we can increase our total sterilizations for the year to 3,217, we will surpass our prior year intake by about 403 (14.3%). This will begin to get us from stabilization to reduction. As a comparison, we were just recognized for our Florida Animal Friend award for September 2022 through July 2023. This allowed for 512 fully subsidized sterilizations. This meant that these animals would not have been sterilized without the grant. We supplemented this award with our own funding to ensure that we met all program goals. We want to ensure that we are not only good stewards of our budget but also good stewards of the grants we receive. If we do not receive the Florida Animal Friend grant, we can only offer reduced fees and some internal subsidy. This leaves the lowest-income pet owners, who make up a disproportionate number of unintended litters due to economic factors, unable to get our services, no matter how we can subsidize them. So, we are not replacing existing service with this grant. We are increasing service by nearly 20% to address the highest-risk populations.

Methods

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

Income levels and risk factors will determine the eligibility criteria for subsidized sterilization services. We will also conduct interviews with our clients to assess their needs. The target population will include households at 200% of federal poverty levels or lower, public assistance recipients (SNAP, Medicaid, SSI, WIC, unemployment benefits), residents of high intake ZIP codes, community cat caregivers (TNR), and people experiencing homelessness through our Street Dog Coalition partnership. Unsterilized females, community cats, and households with multiple intact pets will be prioritized to maximize population impact.

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

We will advertise the program through channels that will allow us to reach low-income pet owners directly. This includes social media groups, food pantries, public housing offices, churches, senior citizen centers, and social service agencies. We will also work with local non-profits. We will utilize our website, email list, and events through the Street Dog Coalition to spread the word. We will make available Spanish versions as well.

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

We eliminate these barriers by providing a simplified registration process (phone or in-person assistance is available), bilingual communication, and culturally sensitive education regarding sterilization. We also have three Spanish-speaking staff members available to assist clients directly. To help alleviate transportation challenges, we work with community volunteers and TNR caregivers to assist when possible.

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

No, transportation will not be provided. Clients will need to provide their own transportation.

Veterinary Services

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

All surgeries are performed at our facility by licensed veterinarians who are either formally employed or contractually engaged to perform these services. Our lead veterinarian and primary high volume spay/neuter surgeon is Dr. Lauren Rockey. Dr. Michele Nelligan and Dr. Kevin Eastman are also veterinarians who assist in these surgeries on a regularly scheduled part-time basis. Our veterinarians are highly trained in high volume, high quality sterilization techniques. They are assisted by six highly trained veterinary technicians. The advantage of having veterinarians on staff is that scheduling can be consistent, quality can be maintained, and surgical volume can increase as grant funding permits.

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	\$10.00	\$47.50	\$57.50
Range for Female Cats	\$10.00	\$47.50	\$57.50
Range for Male Dogs	\$10.00	\$87.50	\$97.50
Range for Female Dogs	\$10.00	\$87.50	\$97.50

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 \$18.00
Pain Medication*	☒ Required ☐ Optional ☐ Not Available	☒ No ☐ Yes

Parasite Medication ☐ Required ☒ Optional ☐ Not Available ☐ No ☒ Yes \$10.00

HW Testing ☐ Required ☒ Optional ☐ Not Available ☐ No ☒ Yes \$25.00

Feline Leuk/FIV ☐ Required ☐ Optional ☒ Not Available ☐ No ☒ Yes \$28.00

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

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

Microchip ☐ Required ☐ Optional ☒ Not Available ☐ No ☒ Yes \$18.00

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:

All animals receive a brief physical exam prior to anesthesia to ensure surgical safety. Community (feral) cats receive a physical exam after anesthesia to minimize stress and prevent injury. Rabies vaccination is included at no cost if necessary to ensure the health and safety of the animal and the community. Other core vaccinations and diagnostic tests are available at a low-cost, optional rate to eliminate cost barriers to care. Pain management is included for all animals. Community (feral) cats receive a long-acting injectable analgesic to facilitate recovery outside. Topical flea control and ear mite treatment are included at no cost if necessary. Other parasite control measures are available at affordable rates. Each community cat receives spay/neuter surgery, rabies and FVRCP vaccination, and ear tipping for humane identification. These services directly impact intake prevention by stabilizing free-roaming cat populations and preventing future shelter intake. To eliminate other barriers to care, a trap loan depot is available to caregivers to humanely transport community cats to surgery. In addition, no-cost core services and affordable optional services enable us to provide high-quality sterilization services to underserved pet owners and community cat caregivers in 2026.

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
Home Again St. Johns	Home Again St. Johns is a county-wide program that serves the homeless population in St. Johns County. They will routinely send their clients to us for services for their pets.
Local Radio and Podcasts	Sunny TV with Davey, WSOS radio, and 904 NOW have all provided us with live interviews and allow us to participate in their monthly programming regularly.
Rescue Groups	We reserve FAF funds for owned animals. We have many rescue partners in our area who use our low-cost services and who are advocates for us in the community. Feline Fairies, Luna's Legacy, and Swamp Haven Rescue all regularly collaborate with us.

Name	Level of Involvement
Rotary Club	The St. Augustine Sunrise Rotary Club collaborates with us for community events, such as the Christmas Parade and Hot Diggity Dog. Our social media coordinator is a member, so she is able to provide outreach and education to all of the members.
St. Johns County Animal Control	St. Johns County Animal Control works with our community relations director as a referral source for owners looking for veterinary services when they do not have an established vet or when their regular vet is unavailable. They also help fill our Pet Food Pantry when they have an overflow at their location. They have also partnered with us for local events and media appearances
St. Johns County Sheriffs Office	Working in conjunction with St. Johns County Animal Control, the sheriff's office also directs community members to the St. Augustine Humane Society for veterinary services.
Television News Outlets	News 4 Jax has a monthly spot reserved for us on their River City Live program. Our community relations director appears regularly to promote our programs and services to the community.

Other Information

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

Our goal for the next grant cycle is to obtain a quantifiable reduction in pet overpopulation and shelter intake by providing high-volume, targeted spay/neuter services to underserved pet owners and community cat caregivers. Funding from Florida Animal Friend will be prioritized for animals that are at the greatest risk of contributing to pet overpopulation, such as free-roaming animals and pets of financially disadvantaged households. Our five-day-per-week appointment-based model is a highly efficient way to provide spay/neuter services while ensuring that we meet the highest medical standards and safety guidelines. As a result of improvements to our facility and workflow, we have expanded capacity, allowing us to serve more animals while remaining a cost-effective solution to pet owners and caregivers. Our model eliminates barriers to service by: - Offering cost-effective and transparent pricing - Providing free rabies vaccinations to animals that need them - Using grant subsidies to serve high-need households - Offering flexible payment options, including our Cookie Jar Fund and third-party financing - Offering online registration and individualized scheduling support. Our model has eligibility requirements to ensure that families experiencing situational financial difficulties are able to access spay/neuter services before surrender is considered. Our community cat TNVR efforts continue to be a vital part of our impact strategy. By providing our trap loan depot and working with caregivers, we are able to directly impact future litters in free-roaming cat populations. This is a well-documented, cost-effective approach to achieve shelter intake reduction goals. All community cats are sterilized, vaccinated for rabies and FVRCP, and ear-tipped for permanent identification. Our low-cost veterinary clinic continues to promote responsible pet ownership by requiring sterilization for reduced-fee services. This guarantees a long-term outcome for shelter intake reduction goals. Our program outputs and outcomes are monitored through our electronic medical records system, tracking species, gender, sterilization status, and community cat designation to ensure accurate reporting. At the end of the grant cycle, we are able to provide detailed reports to show the following outcomes: - Total sterilizations performed - Target populations served - Estimated future litters prevented - Geographic area serviced. Our program model is designed to have a measurable impact, be cost-effective, accessible, and sustainable.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 379 **Dogs:** 79

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$24,963.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$55.00

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

Our spay/neuter program is supported through a diversified funding model that not only increases sustainability but also maximizes the effectiveness of our grant funding. Our annual operating funds are used to support the Cookie Jar Medical Fund, which gives need-based subsidies to pet owners in our community who are facing economic difficulties. This in-house assistance program not only helps us strategically target areas to reduce costs but also utilizes co-payments whenever possible. We continue to partner with Street Dog Coalition to provide vaccines, preventatives, and targeted resources to the pets of people in our community who are experiencing homelessness. When funding is available, Street Dog Coalition also helps us subsidize sterilization efforts in this high-risk population. Vendor relationships also help to reduce program costs through discounted pharmaceuticals, surgical supplies, and periodic in-kind donations. This not only increases our overall cost efficiency but also helps to keep our program running smoothly. Our major fundraising campaign for the year is the Pin Up Paws Campaign, which brings in \$80,000 in unrestricted funding. This not only helps to ensure operational sustainability but also supports our model of providing low-cost, high-volume spay/neuter services to our community. Our diversified funding model ensures that the Florida

Animal Friend grant funding we have been fortunate to receive is used to maximize the number of sterilizations we perform while maintaining program sustainability.

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

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.**

Our organization is committed to ensuring that this spay/neuter program continues and grows beyond the life of this grant cycle through a diversified funding model. Our organization operates on a blended revenue model that includes client co-pays, individual donations, fundraising events, grants, vendor relationships, and general operating support. Our organization's major fundraising event is the Pin Up Paws Campaign, which brings in \$80,000 in unrestricted funding that we utilize to cover operational costs to ensure that we have a steady source of funding to continue our low-cost spay/neuter program. This funding also enables us to utilize the grant funding we have secured to cover the cost of spays and neuters. Our organization also has the Cookie Jar Medical Fund that we utilize to ensure that we have funding in place to assist those in need throughout the year. Our organization continues to seek out local and regional grant opportunities to increase funding for sterilization efforts and to continue to build relationships with local foundations and corporate partners. Revenue earned from our low-cost veterinary services also continues to build on the sustainability of this program. By requiring spaying/neutering to utilize our reduced-fee services, we encourage responsible pet ownership while providing a sustainable model that continues to build on itself. Our cost-effective model also ensures that we are maximizing the return on investment in that we know that for every dollar we spend on spaying/neutering, we are reducing the overall intake in our community. Our organization is well-positioned to continue this program in future years while remaining committed to the mission of Florida Animal Friends to reduce the overpopulation of pets in Florida communities.

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.**

If we are awarded this funding, we will ensure that we promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate as a vital funding source for our spay/neuter program and for statewide efforts to reduce pet overpopulation in Florida. Our promotional plan includes the following: ****Digital Promotion**** - Recognition on our website with a direct link to the Florida Animal Friend license plate page - Social media posts on Facebook, Instagram, and email newsletters about how purchasing a license plate supports spay/neuter programs in Florida - Periodic reminder campaigns in coordination with our grant milestones and reporting deadlines ****Client and Community Engagement**** - Informational materials in our clinic lobby and surgical recovery areas - Informational materials in post-operative packets - Verbal promotion during checkout conversations with our clients who are benefiting from our subsidized spay/neuter program ****Media and Public Relations**** - A press release announcing our grant award and how license plate sales support spay/neuter efforts in Florida - Recognition in our annual impact report - Recognition during our major fundraising events, including our Pin Up Paws campaign - Ongoing advertising on our roadside electronic sign located in front of our facility Our promotional efforts will be well-documented and include a variety of materials that we will submit with our final grant report. By incorporating license plate sales into our daily client interactions and overall marketing strategy, we will improve the overall level of public awareness and support for the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate as a vital funding source for intake reduction in Florida.

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

7