

Grant ID: 2341

Title of Proposal: Rescue, Restore, Rehome**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$25,000.00**Check Payable To:** The Ranch Rescue

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: The Ranch Rescue**Website Address:** www.theranchrescue.com**Person Submitting Proposal:** Laura Rister**Position:** Founder**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** laura_rister@gmail.com**Person Submitting Proposal Cell:** 561-836-4111**Organization Head:** Laura rister**Organization Head's Email:** theranchrescue@gmail.com**Organization Business Address:** 649 SW Walter Ave**City:** Lake city**State:** Florida**Zip:** 32024**Organization Business Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 561-836-4111**County:** Columbia**Organization Head's Cell:** 561-836-4111

Agency Details

EIN:0% "> EIN: 99-3617173**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:** 06/20/2024**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/31/25 **End:** 12/24/25**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$45,783.00**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$215,710.00**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 0 Part Time: 0**How did you learn of the 2009****Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** I am a member of the Regional AspcA advocate team**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
2341	2026	Rescue, Restore, Rehome	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):

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

600 cats and 0 dogs were admitted.

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

4 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

800 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.

- Purpose: Focuses on rescuing and rehabilitating animals, often in rural or agricultural settings. - Activities*: Involves providing shelter, medical care, and sometimes rehoming animals in need. - Community Involvement: Often includes working with local communities to address animal welfare issues, educate about responsible pet ownership, and promote humane treatment of all animals. TNR is a big part of our role in managing the overpopulation crisis in our area.

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

We would love to be able to help more animals as our county has zero free TNR. Our county is in desperate need as we are in a crisis.,

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

Cats: 800 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.):

Columbia County 32024

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

Lack of Spaying/Neutering • Understanding: Many pet owners may not prioritize or afford spaying/ neutering, leading to uncontrolled breeding. • Awareness: Lack of education about the benefits of sterilization contributes to the problem.

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?

Operation cat Nip \$60.00 North Florida Animal Rescue \$75-95 Lake City Humane Society \$150 (on staff vet refuses to do TNR or work

on any feral) None of these are affordable when we TNR 20-40 cats a months (wishing we could do more but paying out of pocket has depleted the rescue donations.

Objectives

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

Increase Spaying/Neutering Rates - : Spay/neuter 1,000 cats within the next year. - Track the number of surgeries performed through partnerships with local veterinary clinics. Enhance Community Education - Conduct 12 educational workshops on responsible pet ownership and the importance of spaying/neutering in the next year. - Collect attendance records and feedback surveys from participants to assess knowledge gained. Expand Adoption Programs - Increase pet adoptions by 30% over the next year. - Compare the number of adoptions before and after the implementation of targeted marketing campaigns and events. Reduce Feral Cat Populations - Implement a TNR program to sterilize 500 feral cats in the next 12 months. - Monitor the number of cats trapped, neutered, and returned to their colonies. Strengthen Community Partnerships - Establish partnerships with at least five local organizations (veterinarians, shelters, community centers) within the next six months. - Document collaboration agreements and joint initiatives launched. Increase Access to Veterinary Care - : Provide low-cost or free spaying/neutering services to 300 low-income pet owners within the year. - Track the number of services provided and gather demographic data to identify the target population served. - : Conduct bi-annual surveys to assess pet population dynamics in the target area, aiming for a 10% reduction in stray animals over the next two years. - Measurement Analyze survey data to evaluate changes in stray and feral animal populations.

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

Currently Columbia County has Zero TNR Programs. To effectively increase the number of sterilization surgeries above the existing baseline, the program can implement several strategic initiatives: Outreach and Education - Community Workshops: Host regular workshops to raise awareness about the benefits of spaying/neutering and to dispel myths. - Informational Materials: Distribute flyers, brochures, and social media campaigns targeting misinformation and promoting the program's benefits. Enhanced Accessibility* - Mobile Clinics: Deploy mobile veterinary clinics to underserved areas, making sterilization services more accessible to low-income communities. -Subsidized Services: Offer reduced-cost or free spaying/neutering services for pet owners who cannot afford them, targeting specific demographics. Partnerships with Local Vets - Collaborative Programs: Partner with local veterinary clinics to create a referral system, incentivizing them to increase the number of surgeries performed. - Funding for Surgeries: Secure funds specifically allocated for spaying/neutering through grants or donations, allowing clinics to expand their capacity. Incentives for Pet Owners - Discount Programs*:Create incentive programs such as discounts on vaccinations or pet supplies for owners who spay/neuter their pets. - Community Rewards: Implement a rewards system for communities that achieve certain milestones in sterilization rates, fostering a sense of competition. Data-Driven Strategies - Baseline Assessment: Conduct an initial assessment to determine the current number of sterilizations, allowing for targeted growth goals. - Ongoing Monitoring: Regularly track and analyze the number of surgeries performed to identify trends and adjust strategies accordingly. Engagement with Local Organizations - Collaborative Events: Organize community events in partnership with shelters and animal welfare organizations to promote spaying/neutering. - Volunteer Programs: Engage volunteers to assist in outreach efforts, helping to spread the message and facilitate clinic operations. Public Awareness Campaigns - Media Engagement Utilize local media, social media platforms, and community events to promote sterilization initiatives and share success stories. - Testimonials: Share stories from pet owners who have benefited from spaying/neutering, highlighting positive outcomes. By implementing these strategies, the program can significantly increase the number of sterilization surgeries performed, effectively addressing the issue of pet overpopulation.

Methods

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

All cats must be in a humane trap Trap must be lined and covered Cat cannot be left in the trap for more than 24 hours.,

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

Social media, local newspaper and news outlets

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

To address barriers to full use of the program: - Implement mobile clinics and offer transportation assistance to help pet owners access services. - Provide clear, visual materials and use oral communication during community workshops to convey information effectively. - : Engage local leaders and influencers to promote the program, ensuring that messaging is culturally sensitive and resonates with the community. These strategies can help overcome obstacles and encourage participation in the program.

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

The Ranch Rescue can provide transportation if arranged in advance.

Veterinary Services

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

We have established a relationship with North Florida Animal Rescue to perform all TNR surgeries. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday drop off 8am pick up 2pm

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	\$0.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$95.00	\$95.00
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:

Examination Ear tip Pain meds Rabies Core vaccine provided under the voucher. All other services would be paid by client. (As requested by client)

Is this a voucher program? Yes**If so, how will you assure utilization of the program?**

I have no doubt that the funds will be used at a high rate. Our county is in crisis.

For your voucher program, how have you determined the capacity of the veterinarians listed above to handle the projected capacity?

They have agreed 3 days a week, every week.

Will you have the ability to report the number of vouchers issued and the number redeemed for spay/neuter surgeries?

Yes monthly reports will be documented.

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
Columbia County Animal Enforcement	100% full support - letter attached
Columbia County Commissioners	100% full support - Letter attached

Other Information

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

Advertise Issue vouchers Schedule appointment Drop/pick up cat from TNR

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 300 **Dogs:** 0

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$84.00

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

Donations from local business and the community. The TNR project is where the community can sponsor a TNR kitty.

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

100

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:** 12/31/26

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.**

Applied for the Bissel Grant, Racheal Ray, Tractor Supply, Home Depot, Lowe's and a few local business.

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.**

Agreed

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

Unknown