

Grant ID: 2453

Title of Proposal: Spay It Forward**Agency Type:** Non-Profit**Total Funding Requested:** \$20,000.00**Check Payable To:** Harmony Vet Care

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Wags Pet Clinic, Inc. DBA
Harmony Vet Care**Website Address:****Person Submitting
Proposal:** Melanie Bizzarro**Position:** Execuative Director**Person Submitting
Proposal Email Address:** bizzarrom14@gmail.com**Person Submitting
Proposal Cell:****Organization Head:** Melanie Bizzarro**Organization Head's
Email:** management@harmonyvetcare.org**Organization Business
Address:** 8501 Ladue Lane**City:** Tampa**State:** florida**Zip:** 33614**Organization Business
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 813-871-0850**County:** Hillbournough**Organization Head's Cell:**

Agency Details

EIN:0% "> EIN: 82-1808037**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:****Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 01/01/25 **End:** 01/01/26**Organization Income in Last
Fiscal Year:** \$10,631,915.00**Organization Expenses in Last
Fiscal Year:** \$10,262,866.00**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 50 Part Time: 50**How did you learn of the 2009
Florida Animal Friend grant
competition?** Recieved the grant in previous years**Year(s) of previous Florida Animal
Friend grants (if applicable):****Previous Florida Animal Friend
Applications:** Years Funded: 2020,2023,2025 Year(s) denied/incomplete:**Auto-Generated (Previous
Applications):**

Grant #	Proposal Year	Proposal Title	Status
1819	2019	A Spay A Day	Funded
2035	2022	TNR Tampa	Funded
2202	2024	Operation Mix-Fix	Funded

2453

2026

Spay It Forward

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
Melanie Bizzarro	Execuative Director

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.****5778 cats and 4882 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.**

Harmony Vet Care is a non-profit veterinary clinic dedicated to providing affordable veterinary care to the community. We have recieved several grants over the years, all of which we have been able to fulfill the requirements of. As the execuative director, I have managed several previous grants and ensured all requirements were met. I would personally ensure all requirements of this grant were met.

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 run a low-cost spay/neuter program daily at Harmony Vet Care. We work with several voucher programs to make spay/neuter surgeries free or very low cost for the community. In general, our spay/neuter servcies are very low cost ranging from \$65 for cat spay/neuters to \$120 for large dog spays.

Number of animals sterilized in that program in the past year:**Cats: 5778 Dogs: 4882****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.):

Tampa, Hillsborough county

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

Affordable spay/neuter programs are lacking in the region. Our spay/neuter services are booking out months in advance, and we have clients that drive from all over the county and from other counties to receive our services. In addition, finding veterinarians that regularly perform spay/neuter services is also difficult for some of our clients. In addition to lack of affordable spay/neuter resources, it is believed that a lack of education contribute to overpopulation of dogs and cats. A large portion of the general public does not understand the benefit of spaying and neutering, and accidental litters happen frequently. Increasing awareness and increasing access to care we believe are a huge component of helping with the dog and cat overpopulation.

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?

Harmony Vet Care offers affordable spay/neuter services. As does other smaller non-profit clinics. However, all of these clinics are booking out months in advance, making it difficult to make spay/neuter services readily available. Our spay/neuter spots fill up extremely quickly. When a spay/neuter day is added to the schedule, it is typically filled by the end of the day. Clients are always calling and looking to book spay/neuter appointments, meeting the demand and target price range is difficult for many organizations.

Objectives

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

With this grant we hope to provide 200 free spay/neuter surgeries to large breed dogs (dogs over 25lbs). Large breed dogs seem to be the fastest appointments booking up and the hardest appointments for many of our clients to get. In addition to this, large breed dogs are the most likely pets to be euthanized in a shelter setting. Currently, the country is seeing the lowest adoption rates in large breed dogs. Making spay/neuter efforts available to families with large breed dogs will help prevent more of these vulnerable pets from entering the shelter systems. This grant will focus on getting 200 large breed dogs in over the course of several days for free spay/neuter services.

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

This program will increase the number of sterilization surgeries above the baseline, because we would add additional spay/neuter days to our already scheduled spay/neuter schedule to get these spots filled. This will significantly help us open more spots for large breed dogs and helps us get caught up on the backlog of individuals looking to book spay/neuter appointments.

Methods

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

Any clients with a large dog (greater than 25lbs) will be eligible to utilize the program. Previously we have put requirements to show financial need to utilize our grant funded programs. However, we have found putting more restrictions on the program creates more barriers for many of our clients. These barriers can make it difficult for many of our in-need clients to utilize these needed programs. We feel the focus should be on getting as many animals spayed/neutered as possible.

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

Advertising will take place on our Facebook page and through our rescue partners. In addition, advertising in public areas such as grocery stores, doctors offices, libraries, etc helps spread awareness about the program and gets spots filled.

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

We are very willing to work with individuals to find ways for them to get their pets to our clinic for surgery. We have several bilingual staff members that make it easier to communicate with a diverse range of clients. We also have several ways for clients to communicate with us, including text messaging, phone calls, and email.

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

It does not. The clients would have to bring the pets to the clinic for surgery, or we can help them find a way to get transport to the clinic for surgery.

Veterinary Services

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

We have eight full-time veterinarians. Four of our full-time veterinarians are trained in HQHVSN surgery.

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	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00

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:

The grant will cover 100% of cost for the sterilization surgery, Rabies vaccination, and post-op pain medication for 200 dogs (100 male dogs and a 100 female dogs)

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
No records to display.	

Other Information

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

Through advertising we will reach out about our free spay/neuter openings for large breed dogs (> 25lbs). They will reach out via phone call, text messaging, email, or in-person to schedule an appointment. We will have specific days added to our doctors schedule to accommodate these free spay/neuter days in addition to our regular spay/neuter schedule. The goal is to sterile an additional 200 dogs.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 0 **Dogs:** 200

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$100.00

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

No other additional funding will be sourced for the program

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: 05/01/26/ **Projected end date:** 11/01/26

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.**

We apply for spay/neuter grants regularly to help offer low-cost and/or free spay/neuter services. In addition to our grants, we are building our Simon's Fund reugarly which allows us to offer lower cost and free veterinary services.

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 will advertise on our social media pages every day we utilize the funds for free services. In addition to posting on our social media pages, we will also advertise in our lobby.

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

50