

Grant ID: 249

Title of Proposal: SFHPCC Spay/Neuter Grant
Agency Type: Non-Profit
Total Funding Requested: \$13,500.00
Check Payable To: St. Francis House Pet Care Clinic

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: St. Francis House Pet Care Clinic	Website Address: www.stfrancishousepetcare.org
Person Submitting Proposal: Priscilla Caplan	Position: Board Member, Secretary
Organization Business Address: PO Box 358462	City: Gainesville
State: Florida	Zip: 32635
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 352-318-3873	Fax:
Cell:	Email Address: coordinator@stfrancishousepetcare.org

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/01/10 **End:** 12/31/10

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$43,567.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$35,911.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 0 Part Time: 0

Number of Active Volunteers: 35

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 50.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Advised to apply by participating vets.

Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable): n/a

Describe your agency:

Services Provided

- Unlimited Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter
- Foster Network
- Animal Control
- Spay/Neuter Services
- Other

Organization Structure:

- City, county, or tribal agency
- Private nonprofit agency
- Other

List your current board of directors:

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation	Email
Cassidy Rist	Board memembr	352-336-8998	DVM	rist.dvm@gmail.com
Chris Machen	Vice President	352-870-0814	Clinic coordinator	cmachen@ufl.edu
Dale Kaplan-Stein	President	352-332-7387	DVM	oaksdks@bellsouth.net
Priscilla Caplan	Secretary	352-318-3873	librarian	coordinator@stfrancishousepetcare.org

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.

0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

100 cats and 200 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

The St Francis House Pet Care Clinic provides free primary veterinary care to the pets of homeless and very low income residents of Alachua County. We offer exams, heartworm and flea preventatives, vaccinations, and treatment for illness and injury. We encourage responsible pet ownership through education and spay/neuter services.

If your program performs adoptions, are all animals sterilized before adoption?

Yes

If not all, what percentage of animals are not currently sterilized before adoption?

n/a

If not all, how are animals selected for sterilization before adoption?

We do not do adoptions, we only provide vet care. However, we will not accept clients into our program unless all animals in their household are sterilized. We will arrange spay/neuter and transportation etc. if necessary.

If not all, describe your sterilization policies and procedures for assuring sterilization after adoption:

See above.

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 ability to carry ou this program.

We are a state-licensed clinic managed by a DVM. Veterinary services are donated by local veterinarians and students in the Merial clerkship of the Shelter Medicine program of the University of Florida School of Veterinary Medicine.

If you currently have a program for sterilization of cats and/or dogs, describe your current level of funding and productivity and why additional resources are needed?

Our sterilizations are performed by UF veterinary students through the Merial Shelter Medicine Clerkship. We have reached a stable number of approximately 200 dog and 100 cat sterilizations per year. We pay for these through money raised by our fundraising efforts. In the past, if our fundraising fell short, some of our client's animals were sterilized using funds from other grants to Shelter Medicine, but this may no longer be possible. This grant would allow us to cover the cost of all sterilizations done on our behalf.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Alachua County
Total human population in target area:	250,000
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	32.0
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	75758
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	62500
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	41667

Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	3163
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	3238
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1732
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1137
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.	
We are not an animal shelter or animal adoption agency. Our client base is limited to pets of county residents who can document they are extremely low-income and/or homeless.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:	
Lack of education regarding the benefits of spay/neuter, low-income population with limited transportation choices, high incidence of pet abandonment due to high student and transient population.	
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?	
There are two low-cost options that cover the costs of the surgery alone, and a free option that serves people receiving assistance. The working poor are underserved, as many make just enough to be above poverty level, but not enough to be able to afford the extra charges that the low cost vouchers don't cover. Also many of our clients mistrust outside services; they will sterilize their pets in order to receive our free veterinary care, but only if they can do this through our Clinic, which they have come to trust.	
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 of the spay/neuter project proposed for this grant:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input type="checkbox"/> Especially difficult or unique animal overpopulation sources <input type="checkbox"/> Pit bull dogs <input type="checkbox"/> Feral cats <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special spay/neuter event <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Objectives

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

We screen prospective clients for eligibility. One criterion is that all pets in the household are sterilized. If they own unsterilized animals we arrange for sterilization, provide transportation, and cover the costs. We estimate need at roughly 200 dogs and 100 cats annually. These funds would allow us to cover the cost of these sterilizations and divert funds raised by other means to cover other clinic costs, including education in responsible pet ownership.

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

In the past, if our own fundraising did not cover the cost of all sterilizations arranged by the Clinic, grants to the Shelter Medicine program covered the difference. We are now expected to cover all of our own costs. Depending on the success of our fundraising efforts, we may or may not have enough funds to cover the expected 300 sterilizations without money from this grant.

Methods

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

The participants need to come to the clinic for an interview and complete an eligibility form, provide an up-to-date letter of food stamp eligibility, and proof of residence in Alachua County. Homeless with no documentation can be vouched for by agency workers.

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

Word of mouth has been a strong and effective tool. Because of the bad economy, we actually have more demand for our services than we can meet at this time.

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

We address these barriers by utilizing our volunteers who are committed to those in the community. Our Clinic is operated out of the back of a local homeless shelter. We embrace the very members of the homeless/low-income community who help bridge the gap by participating and by sharing what they know about our resources. We have a small, yet growing Latino population and at some point our literature may be translated into Spanish.

Does this project involve the transportation of animals by someone other than the client? If so, describe the vehicles, methods for confinement, personnel training, liability releases used to assure the safety of the animals and handlers.

All of those who transport the animals are either vet student volunteers or the vets themselves. Waivers are signed.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

Dr. Natalie Isaza, her colleague Dr. Brian DiGangi, and their students at the UF College of Veterinary Medicine have provided and will continue to provide spay/neuter surgeries on behalf of the St. Francis Pet Care Clinic. Each spay for cats and dogs is \$60.00 and \$30.00 for neuters.

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Dr. Natalie Isaza	UF School of Veterinary Medicine	Gainesville	FL	32610	352-392-2226	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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 (including anesthesia and pain control) and not for other items such as vaccines, testing, licensing, and capital purchases.

	Amount Paid by Client	Amount Paid by Project	Total Amount
Range for Male Cats	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00

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 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes |
| Rabbies Vaccination if Due | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes |
| Other Vaccination if Due | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes |

Pain Medication	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Parasite Medication	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Testing	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Licensing	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Ear tipping	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
Other	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes

If necessary, please explain the procedures and fees described above:

We offer these services without cost to our clients - donations are accepted.

Is this a voucher program? If so, how will you assure compliance with the program?

No.

Other Information

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

The St Francis House Pet Care Clinic achieved 501(c)(3) status in 2010 but we have been operating since 2007. The Clinic is licensed by the state. Clinic is held every Tuesday from 10:00 - 2:00 and we can see as many as 30 clients in that period. Despite being an all volunteer organization we have a stable staff, documented operating procedures, and transparent policies. We provide services for the maximum number of clients and their pets that we can afford to take on, limited by our ability to raise funds, including grant funds.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 100 **Dogs:** 200

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$13,500.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$45.00

Describe any expenses that are not included in the grant and how they will be paid for:

Transportation is provided by volunteers. Consultation, client education, and post-operative care when needed is provided through the Clinic.

Timeline

All projects must be completed within 12 months of receipt of funding. Any unexpended funds must be refunded to Florida Animal Friend within 30 days of the end of the project. Requests for time extensions must be made in writing at least 30 days prior to the end of the project. Funding for accepted projects will be available after August 1, 2009.

Projected start date: 09/01/11/ **Projected end date:** 08/31/12

Future Funding

Explain how the organization plans to fund this program in the future. Having plans beyond "seeking funds from other funders" enhances the chances of receiving this grant.

For the first few years of operation, we were more focused on establishing the Clinic than on fundraising. Since achieving our 501(c)(3) last year we have created a new organizational infrastructure using the talents of a second group of volunteers distinct from Clinic volunteers. We now have committees for Fundraising, Grants, and Publicity/promotion. We are working on implementing an annual "signature" fundraising event, while also conducting frequent smaller events every month. For example, we are holding bi-annual yard sales which net over \$2000 per event. We are also tapping into the local community of veterinarians, as in some sense we provide a service to them by giving them some place to refer patients to who they would otherwise have to turn away or serve pro bono.

Promotion of Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate

Applicants selected for funding are expected to publicize their grant in support of their spay/neuter program via press releases, newsletters, website links, etc. In addition, they are expected to promote the sales of license plates so that additional spay/neuter grants can be funded. Please describe your plan to promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate.

As UF has the only Veterinary Medicine School in Florida-we are lucky to have literally hundreds if not thousands of students, family of students, friends and co-workers who can eagerly promote this worthy cause. Also, Dr. Kaplan-Stein has a long established Veterinary practice and is entrenched in the local community. We have an actively maintained and frequently visited website, and a growing number of Facebook friends. Our access to the local media is and has been beneficial in promoting our program with literally no money for advertising-we have achieved three years of success this way and if we are honored to receive this grant it will allow us the time and freedom to heartily encourage folks to purchase this license plate.