

**2006 FLORIDA ANIMAL FRIEND GRANT APPLICATION**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Entire application must be typed or neatly printed – Sections may be expanded as needed to provide important details, but remember to be concise. Do not change the format of the application.

Name of Applicant Agency: **Leon County Humane Society**  
 Person Submitting Proposal: **Tracey Van Hook** Title: **President**  
 Organization Address: **413 Timberlane Road**  
 City, State, Zip Code: **Tallahassee, FL 32312**  
 Website Address: **www.lchs.info**  
 Phone number: **(850) 224-9193** Fax Number: **(850) 224-5209**  
 Cell Number: **n/a** Email Address: **info@lchs.info**

Title of Proposal: **The Big Fix**  
 Total Amount of Funding Requested: **\$20,000.00** Check payable to: **Leon County Humane Society**  
 Dates of Last Complete Fiscal Year: **1/1/05 to 12/31/05**  
 Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: **\$205,797.00**  
 Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: **\$236,069.00**  
 Number of Paid Employees: Full-time: **1** Part-time: **5**  
 Number of Active Volunteers: **200** Total Volunteer Hours per Week: **200**

Describe Your Agency (check all that apply):

**Services Provided**

- Unlimited intake shelter
- Limited intake shelter
- Foster network
- Animal control
- Spay/neuter services
- Feral cat sterilization
- Veterinary care to the public

**Organization Structure**

- City, county, or tribal agency
- Private nonprofit agency
- Spay/neuter clinic
- Veterinary association
- Private veterinary clinic
- Community collaboration
- Other (Please explain below)

Grants received in the past five years (if any):

Funder	Funding Period Dates	Purpose	Amount
PetSmart Charities	2006 (on going)	spay/neuter pets of low income owners	\$25,000.00
PETCO	2005	spay/neuter	\$1,000.00
American Humane Association	2005	Hurricane Relief	\$4,000.00
DJ&T	2003	spay/neuter	\$5,000.00
PetSmart Charities	2003	spay/neuter pets of college students	\$10,500.00
Capital City Bank, Tallahassee	2004	spay/neuter	\$1,000.00

## GRANT PROPOSAL DETAILS

### Applicant Qualifications:

In the last complete fiscal year:

**391 cats and 129 dogs** were handled (describe your animal program)

**19 rabbits; the LCHS program is a foster and adoption program, taking in animals primarily from sources such as animal shelters, owner give-up, veterinary offices and emergency situations (e.g., Hurricane Katrina evacuees).**

**490 cats and 210 dogs** were sterilized (describe your sterilization program)

**(figures are approximate); all pets adopted through LCHS are sterilized prior to adoption.**

**Additionally, LCHS provides financial assistance for spay/neuter (depending upon availability of funds) to the community and through grants such as those from PetSmart Charities.**

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

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

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

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

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 out this program:

**The individuals responsible for administering this program have successfully administered spay/neuter grants from PetSmart Charities, Petco and DJ&T Foundation. They are currently processing requests for veterinary services (including spay/neuter) for low income pet owners; funding is provided by PetSmart Charities.**

**Barbara Hatch, a retired nurse manager, has been the Administrative Assistant for more than seven years. Her duties include the administrative aspects of managing LCHS and serving as foster cat coordinator for the past 12 years, where her background as a nurse has served her well in nursing sick cats back to good health. In 2002, Ms. Hatch received the prestigious Purple Paw award, given by LCHS to people and pets that show courage and character in the face of adversity. Ms. Hatch was honored for having rescued over 250 cats on her own. She has two dogs and her foster cat population varies by the day!**

**Liz Maryanski is a former LCHS Board member who serves as volunteer Accountant. Ms. Maryanski has an undergraduate degree in Accounting, a Master's of Business Administration and over twenty-eight years accounting and administrative experience. She has two dogs and one cat.**

Is this a community collaboration involving multiple groups? If so, list each group by contact information and role in the project:

Group Name	Group Address	Website	Role
N/A			

**Problem statement:**

Pet overpopulation is the number one issue facing companion animals today. More than five million pets are euthanized annually because there are not enough homes for them. It costs U.S. taxpayers an estimated \$2 billion each year to take in, care for, and often euthanize homeless animals. Although education has increased the percentage of animals that are spayed and neutered, more sterilization is needed to reach the critical thresholds necessary to control overpopulation. Since funding for sterilization programs is limited, it is important that available funds be used for programs that target the most significant sources of cat and dog overpopulation and that these programs increase sterilization surgeries above the current baselines of the community.

**Describe the target area:**

Geographical target area (name of city, county, Florida, etc.): **Leon County**

Total human population in target area: **245756** (information available at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)).

Percent of residents living below poverty in target area: **13%** ([www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov))

Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 4.0): **61439**

Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.8): **51199**

Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0): **40959**

Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.

**n/a**

Number of cats and dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)

Number of cats and dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)

What kinds of spay/neuter services are currently available in the target area? In what way are these resources currently insufficient?

**There are occasional spay/neuter grant programs available in our community, however, these are short-lived and woefully inadequate. Most if not all spay/neuter efforts in our community are dependent on funding by outside entities. The lowest-cost veterinary clinic in our area generally has a waiting list for spay/neuter services of approximately three months.**

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.

**Leon County Humane Society provided spay/neuter services for approximately 700 animals during calendar year 2005. The estimated number of pets in the target area (noted above) reveals that this is a small number when compared to the pet population. The Leon County Humane Society receives numerous requests for spay/neuter assistance on a daily basis; this is an indication that the need is not being met in our community.**

**Describe the specific target population of the spay/neuter project:**

Pets in low-income families: What qualifications will you use to determine low-income status?

Special populations (e.g., pit bulls, underserved regions, unique events):

Neuter-before-adoption of animals from shelters or rescue groups

Feral cat sterilization

Other: **Pets belonging to College students enrolled in Florida State University, Florida A & M University, Tallahassee Community College or Lively Vocational-Technical School.**

**Objectives:**

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

- 1) **Increase in college student participation of spay/neutering their pets**
- 2) **Increased awareness and education of responsible pet care among college students**

**Methods:**

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

**In order to be eligible to receive a Spay/Neuter Voucher, applicant must be a currently enrolled college student. Applicants will be required to present a current student identification, confirming enrollment at one of the four public institutions in Leon County: Florida State University, Florida A & M University, Tallahassee Community College, Lively Vocational-Technical School.**

What arrangements have you made with veterinarians to perform the surgeries? Is the veterinarian(s) on your staff, on contract, in a spay/neuter clinic, or in private practice? Please attach a collaboration letter from the lead veterinarian, practice, or association that will provide spay/neuter services.

**There are several veterinarians in Leon County who are enthusiastically willing to participate in The Big Fix program. These veterinarians have partnered with LCHS in previous spay/neuter campaigns, and they understand the long term impact of reaching this population with both direct services and education. A letter from one participating veterinarian is attached; others have committed verbally to provide low cost spay/neuter services.**

How will you advertise the program? Consider using verbiage such as "limited to the first 50 applicants, one per family" or other restrictions so that you can graciously end the offer as needed. Explain how the advertising will reach the target audience. Attach promotion materials if available.

**The Big Fix will offer vouchers on a "first-come-first-served" basis until the grant funds are exhausted. The program will be advertised on a multi-media level, including campus newsletters, details on LCHS website, public service announcements on the most popular college radio stations, emails to Student Government and Student Organizations, flyers & brochures posted on campus, throughout the community in supermarkets strategic to each of the college campuses, and an article published in the local newspaper will announce the program kick-off. In addition, a table will be set up in Union of Florida State University manned by volunteers displaying information about the program, and offering voucher applications.**

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

**Applications will be available at participating veterinarians' offices, the Leon County Humane Society, and on the Leon County Humane Society web page ([www.lchs.info](http://www.lchs.info)); applications may be faxed or emailed to LCHS. Experience with previous spay/neuter grants indicates that veterinary offices are key to disseminating information regarding availability of spay/neuter funds on behalf of LCHS. Participating veterinarians are strategically located throughout Leon County to ensure that information is distributed equally across diverse economic and geographic populations.**

**Veterinary fees:**

What is the fee range to be paid for spay and neuter and what is the distribution to be paid by the pet owner vs. the grant program? Keep in mind that Florida Animal Friend grant funds may only be used for costs directly associated with sterilization surgery and not for other items such as vaccines, testing, and licensing.

	Amount Paid by Owner	Amount Paid by Project	Total Amount
Range for Male Cats	\$ NONE, UNLESS	\$ 20 - 45	\$ 20 - 45
Range for Female Cats	\$ THERE ARE	\$ 30 - 75	\$ 30 - 75
Range for Male Dogs	\$ COMPLICATIONS	\$ 35 - 75	\$ 35 - 75
Range for Female Dogs	\$ NOT COVERED	\$ 40 - 100	\$ 40 - 100

BY THE S/N GRANT

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

**Yes, this is a voucher program, offering financial assistance to a specifically targeted population. Only college students with proper identification are eligible for vouchers. Students must present a current student identification card in order to be eligible. Vouchers will not be disseminated to anyone without sufficient proof of eligibility and vouchers will not be honored by participating veterinarians without written authorization from the Leon County Humane Society.**

**Other information:**

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

**The Big Fix is focusing on a very specific population (college students) who have historically been negligent in their efforts to responsibly sterilize their pets as evidenced by data gathered during the PetSmart student grant in 2003. Of 332 participants, 153 (46%) indicated they would not have sterilized their pet without financial assistance. Additionally, data gathered during the 2003 grant indicated that 38% of student owners found their pet as a stray. This statistic underscores the theory that many students pet owners do not sterilize their pets.**

**Evaluation:**

Applicant agrees to complete the Grant Follow-up Report and return it to Florida Animal Friend within 12 months of receipt of funds.

**Budget:**

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected: cats **228** dogs **132**

Total budget requested: **\$20,000** Average cost/surgery projected: **\$50**

Budget should not exceed \$20,000. Create a line item for each separate kind of expense that will be covered by the grant funds, such as veterinary fees, surgical supplies, transportation, etc..

Item	Cost Each	Number	Total Cost
spay/neuter	\$50.00	380	\$19,000.00
unanticipated complications arising during spay/neuter procedure (if not needed, funds will be applied to spay/neuter)	\$50.00	20	\$1,000.00
	\$		\$
	\$		\$

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

**Additional expenses for travel of participating Leon County Humane Society (LCHS) staff within the County, printing of promotional materials, and other advertisement costs will be covered by LCHS.**

**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.

Projected start date: **10/1/06**    Projected end date: **9/30/07**

**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.

**The Big Fix is a spay/neuter voucher program [concept] that has been successfully implemented in Leon County in the past. With a 2003 grant from PetsMart Charities, the Leon County Humane Society executed a ground-breaking program, focusing on college students in Leon County. This program was so successful, that the Humane Society has reason to believe that upon implementation of another such successful program, community leaders will recognize the dire need for a county-wide finance-assisted spay/neuter program such as this and lobby legislators for on-going funding. This will be the first major project of the Leon County Humane Society Student Chapter, and it is anticipated that the spay/neuter initiative will become an annual fundraising event by and for students.**

**Promotion of Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate:**

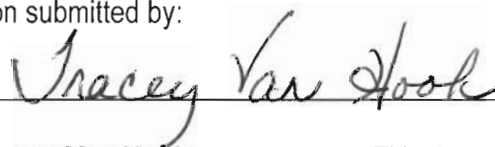
Applicants selected for funding are expected to publicize their grant in support of their spay/neuter program via press releases, newsletters, website links, etc. In addition, they are expected to promote the sales of license plates so that additional spay/neuter grants can be funded. Please describe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

**Promotion of the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate program will be in conjunction with any and all Big Fix promotions, via newsletters, radio, newspaper, email, flyers, LCHS website, and brochures. Each Voucher will include printed information on the license plate campaign, providing specific directions on how to acquire them. A sample license plate will be on display at each campus Big Fix table for students to see. A link to the License Plate web site is already posted to the LCHS web site ([www.lchs.info](http://www.lchs.info)).**

By my signature below, I attest that the information provided in this grant proposal is true and that the proposed spay/neuter program complies with local city, county and state ordinances and laws.

Application submitted by:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: **5/30/06**

Name: **Tracey Van Hook**

Title: **Volunteer President**