

2008 FLORIDA ANIMAL FRIEND GRANT APPLICATION

Application must be RECEIVED BY: April 1, 2008

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Entire application must be typed. 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: CARE Feline Rescue, Inc.

Person Submitting Proposal: Lisa Freeman Title: President

Organization Address: 1421 Silverthorn Dr

City, State, Zip Code: Orlando, FL 32825

Website Address: http://www.carefeline rescue.org/

Phone number: 407-522-2617 Fax Number: 407-812-6468

Cell Number: 407-222-9657 Email Address: pres@carefeline rescue.org

Dates of Last Complete Fiscal Year: 1/1/2007 to 12/31/2007 (MM/DD/YY)

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$6,524

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$ 4,228

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

Number of Paid Employees: Full-time: 0 Part-time: 0

Number of Active Volunteers: 13 administrative volunteers plus colony caretakers

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 113 administrative hours plus colony management

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
- Other _____

Organization Structure

- City, county, or tribal agency
- Private nonprofit agency
- Spay/neuter clinic
- Veterinary association
- Private veterinary clinic
- Community collaboration
- Other _____

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

2000 cats and 0 dogs were sterilized

100 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized

Describe your animal programs:

CARE Feline Rescue, Inc. (CARE) is a nonprofit organization committed to reducing the population of feral and abandoned cats in Central Florida through Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR). We currently work in partnership with Orange County Animal Services (OCAS) to offer free spay/neuter (S/N) and rabies vaccines for feral and abandoned cats in Orange County. All cats that go through our program also receive a FVRCP vaccine and a dose of Ivomectin.

Please note that the number of cats sterilized and number euthanized refer to those cats in our current partnership program with OCAS. CARE is required to abide by the OCAS policy of random testing for FeLV/FIV. This policy requires that any feral cat testing positive be euthanized. Random testing is not truly random since generally it is the larger males that are selected for testing.

If your program performs adoptions, are all animals sterilized before adoption? Yes No

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:

CARE has been in continuous operation in Central Florida since its inception in 1995, although it was not formally incorporated until 1996. Over that period of time, we have successfully provided TNR for over 15,000 cats who have been screened by CARE volunteers and determined to be feral or abandoned and unowned.

CARE has historically offered S/N services exclusively through OCAS. Since funding for this clinic is provided by property taxes, services have been restricted to Orange County cats. Inquiries from outside Orange County are referred to other resources. Unfortunately, these other resources are sadly lacking and generally not a practical alternative for colony caretakers (see more detail below).

CARE has "open" appointments for members of the general public - generally individual caregivers, as well as "restricted" appointments that are reserved for special colony-focused TNR projects and involve "trapping teams" composed of CARE volunteers.

Historically, CARE has depended predominantly on individual caregivers who focus on neighborhood cats. Recently, however, CARE has been increasing its focus on larger, commercial, colonies. Examples of commercial colonies that have been processed through the CARE program include:

- Restaurants
- Schools
- Strip Malls
- Individual Businesses
- Apartment, Mobile Home and Condominium communities
- Supervised Living Facilities
- Hotels

CARE was successful in 2006 and 2007 in trapping feral cats for two mass Spay Days. Surgery was coordinated and provided by OCAS. CARE assembled trap teams, distributed traps, and arranged transportation and recovery for feral cats from large colonies. In November 2006, CARE trappers brought in exactly 100 cats for the 100 appointments OCAS had scheduled. In March 2007, OCAS scheduled 150 appointments but honored all 172 cats trapped and brought in by CARE.

Numerous meetings have been held between OCAS and CARE since these mass Spay Days to develop strategies to enable CARE to routinely service these larger colonies in the most efficient manner for both CARE and OCAS. CARE is in the process of building a "TNR Army" for the purpose of routinely trapping feral cats in identified larger, mostly commercial, locations. CARE already has a core of experienced trappers and has begun training additional people who are interested in joining trapping teams for this purpose.

We are proposing the "Expert Model" of TNR for the CARE Osceola project, wherein resources are targeted on specific high-priority colonies. Therefore, we are providing the following paragraphs which describe two similar albeit smaller projects undertaken in Orange County to demonstrate the ability of our volunteer forces to undertake such projects.

- Valencia Community College: One example of a special trapping project is a collaborative effort with Valencia Community College West Campus. This project, largely completed in 2005 was able to TNR 30 adult feral cats living on this suburban campus which is surrounded by residential development. For this project, CARE entered into an agreement with campus administrators to provide a trapping team to trap, transport for surgery, recover, and return cats to campus. Several adult cats were found to be friendly and were successfully adopted through an adoption group. Approximately 10 kittens were removed and socialized for adoption. An existing caregiver continues to feed this colony with CARE providing vacation coverage. CARE has an ongoing relationship with Valencia administration and is contacted when new cats appear on campus. Volunteers continue to trap on an as needed basis.
- Burlington Coat Factory: Another example is the Burlington Coat Factory. This colony has been managed by an elderly couple for over 15 years, Although willing to feed the cats, the couple was unwilling to undertake the trapping and recovery necessary for TNR. However, they were willing to cooperate with CARE volunteers. CARE sent trapping teams in for both the mass Spay Days (described above), sending a total of 80 cats from this colony through the TNR process. The volunteers transported the cats to OCAS, provided recovery care and then transported them back to Burlington to release. As a result of this effort, only one litter of kittens was born to this colony in the summer of 2007. The mother and her kittens were trapped for TNR in March 2008.

CARE is operated solely by unpaid volunteers, including thirteen people who are actively involved in the day-to-day "administrative" functions. These people donate approximately 113 hours of their time each week:

- officers and board members,
- telephone appointment setters (people who man the phone lines to provide program information and make S/N appointments),
- trap loaners (people who store and loan traps to caretakers on an as-needed basis),
- network administrator, and
- community liaisons (people who work with OCAS to negotiate release and return of impounded CARE cats and who mediate citizen complaints about CARE colony cats).

In addition to the "administrative" volunteers who manage the organization, there are hundreds of volunteer trappers and colony caregivers. Since July 2005, 1100 people have been added to the CARE contact list. Contacts are people who have called CARE and scheduled spay/neuter appointments. Some of these people have a single backyard cat and use the CARE program only once. Others are people who manage multiple colonies and schedule appointments almost weekly. There is no way of estimating the volunteer time these people contribute to trapping and feeding these colonies.

CARE officers, directors and volunteers have a vast range of experience in TNR ranging from 10+ years to a few months. They come from diverse backgrounds, each with special skills and abilities, yet all share a love of animals and a deep desire to reduce the population of feral cats through the humane and effective TNR process.

CARE provides TNR training to users of the program to enhance trapping success. Training includes phone support by volunteers and public workshops to give personalized instruction in various trapping techniques and recovery procedures. CARE also provides advanced trapping classes to volunteers who want to become expert trappers and assist with large colonies or help caretakers unable to perform TNR by themselves. These volunteers, known as the "TNR Army", practice targeted trapping in which an entire colony (or large portion thereof) will be trapped, neutered and returned in a very short period of time. By performing TNR on an entire colony at once, the population can be controlled very quickly without allowing the remaining cats to reproduce or become trap shy.

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

CARE has historically offered S/N services exclusively through OCAS. Since funding for this clinic is provided by property taxes, services have been restricted to Orange County cats. In recent years, CARE has noticed an increasing demand for TNR in other counties in the "Greater Central Florida Area" including Osceola and Seminole Counties. As a result, CARE undertook in the past few months to begin investigating means for an expansion of TNR services to this larger area.

Spay-N-Save provides S/N for feral cats in Seminole County, partially funded by a 2007 FAF grant. This subarea of the greater Central Florida area is considered to be adequately serviced at this time; however, services are restricted to cats that live in Seminole County.

Orange County Animal Services (OCAS) operates a low cost S/N clinic, with free services for feral/abandoned cats through the current and ongoing CARE program. In addition, CARE is working with administrators at this time to increase the number of appointments available on a weekly basis. However, this clinic is restricted to cats that live in Orange County.

Spay the Strays, Inc. promotes TNR in Osceola County. However, this organization has extremely limited funding and they require the caretaker to pay the full cost for S/N services - with the exception of special cases where donations from other parties are available to cover their costs. While caretakers who deal with backyard cats or small colonies are sometimes able to afford this cost, caretakers of large and/or multiple colonies cannot.

The SPCA of Central Florida (SPCA) operates a low cost S/N clinic open to all Central Florida residents. However, demand for services is high and there can be a significant wait for an appointment opening. In addition, their surgery policy requires full testing and vaccinations which results in a cost of approximately \$100 per cat for feral cats with no prior medical treatment. This cost is prohibitive for colony caretakers who may be managing 100+ cats.

Several private veterinarians in the Central Florida area will provide low cost S/N to rescue organizations. However, many will not work with feral cats. In addition, as noted previously, even low cost pricing is a financial burden to many caretakers.

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.

OCAS provided S/N services for approximately 2,000 feral and abandoned cats in 2007. We estimate the value of these services at \$40,000 based on a 50/50 ratio of male to female cats and using OCAS S/N rates charged to the general public, although the true value of the OCAS surgeries is undoubtedly higher since the public rates are subsidized by county tax dollars. An additional \$20,000 value is provided in the form of FVRCP vaccines and ivomectin treatment.

OCAS has publicly recognized the value of the CARE program for increasing the effectiveness and productivity of their S/N mission. They view CARE volunteer hours as "free staffing" and they note that CARE volunteers are more reliable than the general public in honoring appointments, which reduces wasted resources. Based on ongoing discussions with OCAS, CARE anticipates a similar or increased level of support for TNR in Orange County for the year 2008 and beyond. Unfortunately this does nothing to address the feral cat population in the target colonies in Osceola County.

No funding is available for free or reduced cost sterilization of feral cats in Osceola County. Some TNR is ongoing - informal discussions with Spay the Strays indicate that they coordinated S/N for approximately 450 cats in 2007. However, these services are cost prohibitive for large colony caretakers and therefore the S/N rate for these colonies is not sufficient to affect feral cat populations.

GRANT PROPOSAL DETAILS

Title of Proposal: CARE Osceola

Total Amount of Funding Requested: \$ 20,000 Check payable to: CARE Feline Rescue, Inc.

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

Problem statement:

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.): Osceola County

Total human population in target area: 244045 (information available at www.census.gov)

Percent of residents living below poverty in target area: 28057 (www.census.gov)

Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3): 73953

Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0): 61014

Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0): 40674

Number of cats 9272 and dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)

Number of cats 5167 and dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)

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

Please note that the number of cats admitted and number of cats euthanized includes both dogs and cats. Osceola County Animal Control was not able to provide separate numbers.

Describe the specific target animal population of the spay/neuter project proposed for this grant:

- 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):
- Feral cat sterilization
- Other:

Objectives:

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

CARE Osceola will utilize the "Expert Model" for colony-focused TNR, primarily targeting managed colonies in downtown Kissimmee and the Poinciana area. We hope to S/N 400+ feral cats at an average cost of \$50 per cat. The emphasis will be on fertile female cats (over 4 months of age).

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

Our best estimate for TNR in Osceola County is 450 cats in 2007. The proposed program will increase the number of sterilization surgeries by nearly 100 percent. Since our emphasis will be on fertile females, we expect the fertility rate to decrease by an even higher percentage.

Methods:

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

We will identify the specific colonies to be targeted under this program. Trapping will be conducted by the CARE "TNR Army".

How will you advertise the program? Explain how the advertising will reach the target audience. Attach promotion materials if available.

Advertising will not be necessary since we will coordinate directly with the trapping volunteers and caretakers.

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

We do not anticipate any barriers.

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.

No.

Veterinary Services:

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

We have an agreement in place with All Creatures Animal Hospital (Kwang J Kim, D.V.M.) to perform surgeries. Dr. Kim provides S/N services for a number of rescue groups and is experienced with treating feral cats. He will set aside a block of up to 20 weekly spay appointments and unlimited neuter appointments. Additional appointments and/or emergency appointments can generally be scheduled with very little notice if necessary.

Please attach a collaboration letter from the lead veterinarian, practice, or association that will provide spay/neuter services. The letter should include a statement describing the fee schedule to be followed and whether the veterinarian(s) are on your staff, on contract, in a spay/neuter clinic, or in private practice. Please list all of the participating veterinarians or veterinary practices below, including address, phone number, and premise permit number (available at www.myfloridalicense.com).

Name	Address	Phone
Kwang J Kim, D.V.M.	_____ 5745 E Pershing Ave, Orlando, FL 32822 ____ _____ [permit # VE411] _____	407-277-6027

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	\$ 40 to \$65	\$ 40 to \$65
Range for Female Cats	\$ 0	\$ 50 to \$80	\$ 50 to \$80
Range for Male Dogs	\$	\$	\$
Range for Female Dogs	\$	\$	\$

Please check each item below to indicate whether additional services are required at the time of surgery and whether the client is required to pay for them.

	Included in Cost	Not Offered	Optional	Required	Amt. Paid by Client
Examination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 0
Vaccination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 0
Pain Medication	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
Parasite Medication	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
Testing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
Licensing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
Ear tipping	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 0
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$

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

Fees for optional services are subject to negotiation between the colony caregiver and the veterinarian. Project funds will not be used for these items.

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.

As previously noted, CARE is poised to expand into Osceola County to help address the ever increasing issue of feral and abandoned cats in the greater Central Florida area. We have been working with individual caretakers/TNR crusaders in Osceola County to ascertain specific needs and identify additional resources (volunteers, cages, traps, etc) that are available for this expansion. It appears that there is a core group of approximately 15 TNR individuals in the area who are interested in joining with CARE for the project, most of whom have traps and recovery cages available. We anticipate working with this core group over the next several months to orient them to the CARE mission and procedures, as well as to develop a plan of action so that we will be ready to begin implementing CARE Osceola as soon as funding becomes available.

It should be noted that CARE has ongoing relationships with any number of adoption groups in the greater Central Florida area, including several that operate mainly in the Osceola County area. These groups will work with CARE to place friendly adult cats in homes whenever possible. In addition, they will work with CARE volunteers to socialize kittens of feral mother cats and place them in homes as well. This cooperative relationship between the TNR and "adoption" rescue groups will

help to reduce the homeless population to an even greater extent. Note: All cats and kittens placed through the adoption groups will be sterilized prior to adoption into homes.

Budget:

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected: cats 400 dogs 0

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

Budget should not exceed \$20,000.

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

Additional traps may be needed. If so, these will be purchased out of CARE's general operating fund in the same manner that all other traps are purchased.

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, 2008.

Projected start date: 8/1/2008 Projected end date: 7/31/2009 (MM/DD/YY)

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.

CARE's long range goal is to enter into a collaborative arrangement with Osceola government, similar to the arrangement in place with OCAS. We see this as a "pilot" program to demonstrate the effectiveness of the "Expert Model" of TNR which can hopefully be used to convince county officials to support ongoing TNR efforts. Short range plans include fundraising events and other grant resources.

Evaluation:

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

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.

CARE will add information to their website to promote the sale of the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate. In addition, CARE will endeavor to get publicity for the program through local newspapers, including but not limited to the Orlando Sentinel.

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, state and national ordinances and laws.

Application submitted by:

Signed: _____ Date: (MM/DD/YY)

Name: Lisa Freeman Title: President

CHECKLIST OF ATTACHMENTS AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Organize the completed applications in the following order and complete checklist.

	Nonprofit Agencies	Municipal Agencies
1	Grant application	Grant application
2	Checklist	Checklist
3	Veterinary collaboration letter(s)	Veterinary collaboration letter(s)
4	Current fiscal year agency budget	Current fiscal year agency budget
5	Roster of board of directors	Letter of support from director
6	IRS 501(c)3 determination letter	Media coverage, brochures, PSAs, etc.
7	FL DOACS registration certificate	
8	IRS 990 or 990 EZ	
9	Media coverage, brochures, PSAs, etc.	

For all applicants:

- Completed grant application (hard copies and electronic copy)
- Veterinary collaboration letter for spay/neuter services
- Copies of newsletters, media clippings, public service announcements, brochures, etc. that pertain to the applicant's spay/neuter program (hard copies only, no videos, DVDs, etc).

For private nonprofit agencies:

- Current fiscal year agency budget
- Roster of applicant's board of directors, including address, phone number, email address, occupation and whether board members are compensated for their positions.
- IRS Tax Exempt #59-3419640 (attach determination letter)
- FL Dept of Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Registration # CH-11495 (attach)
- Most recent IRS Form 990 (pages 1-4 & signature page) or 990EZ (page 1-2 & signature page).

For city, county, or tribal entities:

- For city and county governments, attach current fiscal year agency budget, the line item that the funds would be deposited into, a letter from the director of the city or county animal care and control agency on city or county letterhead clearly indicating support for the application of the grant proposal.
- For tribal entities, attach a letter signed from the Tribal Authority of the local Tribal Health Department.

Applications must be received by the due date of **April 1, 2008** to be considered in the current cycle. Applications received after the due date and incomplete applications will be returned without review. It is advisable to use a carrier that offers a guaranteed delivery date. Completed applications, including the grant application form, required supporting documents, and other attachments must be submitted together as a complete packet. Please submit 1 original and 4 identical hard copies of the application and all attachments for review. Each copy should be stapled or compiled with a binder clip. Do not use binders, folders, or other display materials for the applications. Please also email 1 copy of the application (signatures and attachments not required) to the address below.

Send 1 original and 4 hard copies of application or grant submission inquiries to: Florida Animal Friend, Inc., c/o Lois Kostroski, 13153 North Dale Mabry, Suite 105, Tampa, FL 33618, 866-303-3222, info@floridanimalfriend.org.

Send 1 electronic copy or content inquiries to: Julie Levy, levyj@vetmed.ufl.edu, (352) 392-2226 ext 5717