

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: Cat Depot Inc
Person Submitting Proposal: Marilyn Warner Title: Manager
Organization Address: 5933 N Washington Blvd
City, State, Zip Code: Sarasota, FL 34243
Website Address: www.catdepot.org
Phone number: 941-351-0824 Fax Number: 941-351-4346
Cell Number: 941-504-2426 Email Address: info@catdepot.org
Dates of Last Complete Fiscal Year: 7/1/06 to 6/30/07 (MM/DD/YY)
Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$431,515.00
Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$441,686.00
Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable): 0
Number of Paid Employees: Full-time: 4 Part-time: 6
Number of Active Volunteers: 19 Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 49

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:

530 cats and 0 dogs were admitted

490 cats and 0 dogs were adopted

300 cats and 0 dogs were sterilized

5 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized

Describe your animal programs:

Cat Depot is the largest no-kill, non profit cat sanctuary in Sarasota-Bradenton Fl . Cat Depot takes in stray, abandoned and injured cats. We take in litters of kittens and ask only in return the mother cat is spayed so she will not be a repeat offender next heat cycle. On intake we test each cat for feline leukemia and aids. If the cat is negative we begin inoculations, give flea and worm preventatives and schedule for spay/neuter. All of our cats are micro-chipped. Once these procedures are complete and the cat has been determined to be healthy they are placed up for adoption to a loving forever home.

Cat Depot gets hundreds of calls monthly from people who are looking for affordable resources to have a cat altered. Many callers have found an injured cat or their own personal cat has had an injury or is ill and they do not have the money to seek medical attention. Word has gotten around that Cat Depot will help when no one else will. We do a preliminary exam and if the injury is determined to be life threatening or the cat is in distress it is immediately sent to our vet for an exam and medical treatment. Cat Depot takes responsibility for the bill. The person who brought the animal to us is asked to participate by making a contribution they can afford to help with the costs if at all possible. Many times a cat has been found injured and has no owner so Cat Depot takes over and absorbs the cost of the medical care on the cat. We maintain a list of agencies in our area and make referrals to assist the public. Many of those callers will call back and tell us the waiting list with ARC is so far in the future it gets them discouraged and they often do not follow through. If we schedule an animal immediately, it is more likely the caller will get the cat done.

Cat Depot assists several elderly people with food and medical care for their cats. We also assist several people who are low income in the upkeep of their old and sick cats. Cat Depot continues to be an excellent community resource.

We help callers who want to get their cats spay/neutered but cannot afford it. We ask that those people volunteer at Cat Depot in return for paying for the spay/neuter if they are physically able to. We are the only rescue group who helps injured cats, paying for emergency treatment. We answer our phone 7 days a week and are open every weekend. We loan traps, and assist those who are elderly or disabled who cannot do the trapping themselves.

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:

Cat Depot has been actively helping abandoned and stray cats in the community for the past four (4) years. Our work encompasses Sarasota, Manatee, Desoto and Pinellas Counties. Our sanctuary houses about 200 felines at any given time. There is a full time paid staff as well as several volunteers who care for the cats 7 days a week. We frequently find cats on our doorstep left in cages and boxes because we are the only no kill shelter in the area. Most of these cats are unaltered, flea ridden and sick. We test them, give them flea and worm preventatives get them veterinary care and have them altered prior to placing them up for adoption to loving homes. The cost of operating a shelter is astronomical and any assistance we can get in the form of donations and grants is crucial.

Ken Slavin, our primary contributor at Cat Depot has been in charge of the finances for the past four years. Mr Slavin keeps meticulous logs of all income and expenditures at Cat Depot. Marilyn Warner, Shelter Manager, over see's the cats needs making the initial determination of level of care needed and coordinates with Mr. Slavin each step of the way. Mrs. Warner coordinates with the vet tech and veterinarian to give recommendations to Mr. Slavin and together they make decisions on how best to use our funds. Mr. Slavin and Mrs. Warner have exhibited they are qualified to handle any additional funds that are awarded to Cat Depot.

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

SDA Sarasota in Defense of Animals has a limited spay/neuter program for feral cats. It was a result of their receiving a Florida Animal License Plate grant. This program will only be available until their funds are depleted.

ARC (Animal Rescue Coalition) offers low cost spay/neuter on their mobile clinic for those who are income qualified. ARC also offers a free program for feral cats.

This is inadequate because a significant number of people who need help fall between the cracks. Many of these folks are few dollars over the limit but still not at the poverty income level. Many times the clinic is filled for several weeks ahead and by that time the cat is pregnant and has kittens. The demand is far greater than the resources available in our area.

ARC does spay and neutering of feral cats (TNR) one day per month. The cats must be trapped a day or so prior to the TNR date. ARC has a limit number of slots and if more cats are trapped than can be done that day they must wait for the next feral day. If a feral cat is released unaltered it is difficult to re-trap as cats are very smart and avoid going into the trap for a 2nd time. The Animal Rescue Coalition cannot accommodate a sufficient number of surgeries to solve our current feral cat problem in the Sarasota Bradenton area.

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.

Currently we take in stray and abandoned cats and kittens. 98 % of the animals we rescue are not spayed or neutered. We schedule those cats for immediate surgery. Dr. Romero, Palm Aire Animal Clinic does the majority of our work and gives us a highly reduced rate because we are a non profit shelter. He bills us monthly.

We get hundreds of calls each month from people who are looking for resources to help them get their cats altered because they do not have the money. We could do twice as many spay and neuters based on the calls we receive but because of limited funds we must turn people away. I would like to increase our productivity by establishing a separate spay and neuter fund to help the people who cannot meet low income criteria but still do not have enough income to seek veterinary care for a cat that has not been altered. as well as the low income individuals.

Level of funding: Currently our primary benefactors allow me, on a one on one basis, to determine who we help. I schedule the cats for spay or neuter if they are unaltered. I coordinate with ARC, or the humane society if, the client meets their criteria for help to see if they can take care of the client before I schedule for surgery. If the person fails to get the help they need I get it done through the Cat Depot and the vet bill is paid by the Slavin's who have been very generous in allowing me to help the community at my discretion.

Additional Resources are needed to further reduce the stray cat population in the Sarasota Bradenton area. If I have a special fund, we could set weekly goals and get more cats spayed/neutered without having to pick and choose. Every cat should be spayed/neutered as soon as it is brought to our attention. If this does not happen people loose interest, get discouraged and do not come back and then the cat reproduces.

GRANT PROPOSAL DETAILS

Title of Proposal: FFF (Florida Feline Fund) For Cat Depot

Total Amount of Funding Requested: \$ 15,000.00 Check payable to: Cat Depot 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.): Sarasota and Manatee Counties

Total human population in target area: 682833 (information available at www.census.gov)

Percent of residents living below poverty in target area: 5847 (www.census.gov)

Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3): 206918

Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0): 170708

Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0): 113805

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)

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

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? Any one receiving a needs based program such as SSI, Food Stamps, WIC, Veteran Pension.
- Special populations (e.g., pit bulls, underserved regions, unique events): Depressed areas of the city, low income housing areas.
- Feral cat sterilization
- Other: The families who are struggling to pay their bills but do not meet the low income criteria.

Objectives:

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

This grant money will help provide more spay/neuters to people who have no ability to pay the cost of sterilization. It will increase the number of spay and neuters reducing the cat population in Sarasota and surrounding counties. It will reduce the number of euthanasia's in the county facilities and prevent further suffering of unwanted felines.

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

It is always about funding we have to spend on a project. The more we have to spend the more we can accomplish. We would be able to increase the existing baseline two fold.

Methods:

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

The management of Cat Depot will determine eligibility based on an interview with the client. We will assess their ability to pay and refer them to agencies that provide free or low cost sterilization. If they do not meet agency's criteria or transportation or scheduling is a problem, we will help that individual. We have done this over the past four years and based on my experience 99% of the people who ask for help are ones who cannot afford to pay. Due to inflation loss of jobs and foreclosures on homes in this area we have seen our homeless cat problem increase significantly this year. For those who can afford something are asked to participate by making a donation towards the spay/neuter fund or volunteer in the shelter to help absorb some of the costs. Records will be maintained to substantiate the numbers.

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

We have continually advertized in several local papers and magazines. We will target the lower income areas by putting special ads in the local flyers. If approved for this grant we will do ads in Spanish for the Hispanic communities.

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

We have always helped people if they have no transportation using our work van. Many of the local veterinarian offices refer people they realize are in need of help for their pets and cannot afford the cost. Many people call Cat Depot as because they have heard from a friend that we help with problems when their animal is in distress.

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.

Not for the most part, only occasionally. If we do transport an animal we have a work utility van, all animals are in carriers and secured. We have full coverage in case of any accidents.

Veterinary Services:

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

Dr. Steve Romero, Palm Aire Animal Medical Center, is our veterinarian and he will continue to do our surgeries.

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
Dr Stephen P. Romero, DVM	7636 Lockwood Ridge Rd Sarasota FL 34243	941-351-1161
Palm Aire Animal Clinic _____		
Premise Permit # VE 3577 _____		

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	\$ 35	\$ 35
Range for Female Cats	\$	\$ 48	\$ 48
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"/>	\$
Vaccination	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$ 20
Licensing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$
Ear tipping	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
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:

The Vet Tech at Cat Depot tests all of the cats prior to their going for spay/neuter . All of the cats get a rabies shot paid for by Cat Depot or client pays Vet direct on a privately own cat and the Licensing is paid for by the client, after required rabies shot.

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.

All incoming cats are assigned a number and name. A daily list is prepared on all cats going to the vet. The cats number and name and the reason they are going to the vet is on the daily log. At the end of the month, the bills are compared to the daily sheets to verify all work has been billed correctly. We can do a separate log on FFF grant money if it is approved. We have had very good success with this method over the past four years for accounting purposes.

Budget:

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected: cats 600 dogs 0

Total budget requested: \$ 15000 Average cost/surgery projected: \$ 30,000

Budget should not exceed \$20,000.

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

The above budget projection: We did 300 cats during the grant period. If we increase two fold our goal will be 600. I have projected each cat at \$50. which would be \$41. average per cat plus \$9.00 for pain meds or any extra's for pregnant cats or males having complicated neuters where the testicles do not drop. The other costs, testing, shots etc will be paid for by our benefactors, Mr. & Mrs. Ken Slavin and by our adoption fee's and fund raising. We now have an annual fund raiser to benefit Cat Depot. The Slavin's have made an ongoing commitment for financially support to Cat Depot.

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: 9/1/08 Projected end date: 8/31/09 (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.

We continue to have fund raisers, requests grants, adoption fee's, an ongoing recurring donor base and the excess is funded by Mr. and Mrs. Slavin who have done so for the past four years. They have recently purchased a new building and are having renovations done so Cat Depot will be moving within the next year to our new location.

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.

We have continually promoted the FAF spay neuter license plate. Our website www.catdepot.org has a link to click on to automatically take you to the FAF website. Our Cat Depot van has the Animal Friend License Plate. We have included FAF information in our newsletter. We also reduce our adoption fee if one has a Animal Friendly spay/neuter license plate and have publicized this in our newsletter. I will attach one of the pages that promoted the SDA free spay/neuter clinic as well as our reduced fee adoption rate for those who have the animal license plate.

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: 03-20-08 (MM/DD/YY)

Name: Marilyn Warner Title: Manager Cat Depot

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 #20-0217681 (attach determination letter)
- FL Dept of Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Registration # CH-16739 (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