

Grant ID: 115

Title of Proposal: Trap-Neuter-Release Surgery Fund

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$21,000.00

Check Payable To: First Coast No More Homeless Pets, Inc.

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency:	First Coast No More Homeless Pets, Inc.	Website Address:	www.fcnmhp.org
Person Submitting Proposal:	Raquel A. McAlee	Position:	Fundraising Coordinator
Organization Business Address:	PO Box 11870	City:	Jacksonville
State:	Florida	Zip:	32239
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):	904-425-0005	Fax:	904-338-0819
Cell:	904-316-2262	Email Address:	rmcalee@fcnmp.org

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 10/01/07 **End:** 09/30/08

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$1,459,898.93

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$470,149.95

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 12 Part Time: 12

Number of Active Volunteers: 15

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 150.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? We were awarded the Animal Friend Grant in 2007 and had it marked on our calendar to reapply this year.

Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable): 2007

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
Anastasia Regas Stone	Member	904-910-6897	Caterer	aaregas@yahoo.com
Debbie Fields	President	904-596-7350	Clear Channel	dfields@bellsouth.net
Emily Diaz	Member	904-994-1617	Attorney	ediaz@foley.com
Joseph A. Strasser	Member	904-396-9077	Retired	
Kelly Delaney	Member	904-997-8172	Teacher	kellydelaney@aol.com
Kim Tippin	Member	904-662-7661	Graphic Designer	kim@daltonagency.com
Lee Conway	Member	904-923-7736	Retired	mleeconway@aol.com
Leigh Burdett	Secretary	904-945-1571	Business Consultant	leighburdett@bellsouth.net
Peter Marsh	Member	603-224-1877	Attorney	pmarshlaw@hotmail.com
Tom Moilanen	Treasurer	904-757-0603	Account	tomm.4@comcast.net

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.

30 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

12559 cats and 1646 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

The mission of First Coast No More Homeless Pets (FCNMHP) is to end the needless killing of cats and dogs by offering free and low-cost spay/neuter surgeries. FCNMHP was founded in 2001 and incorporated in 2002 with the goal of promoting the only proven effective means of ending the needless killing of healthy, adoptable cats and dogs in shelters; spay and neuter programs targeted at the pets of low-income pet owners. In late 2002 the City of Jacksonville requested proposals for a city funded spay/neuter program and FCNMHP responded with what became the SpayJax program. Since 2003 FCNMHP has focused on combating the pet overpopulation problem with free and low-cost spay/neuter programs. FCNMHP has facilitated more than 50,000 pet sterilizations. To date we have seen a direct affect on shelter intake. Primarily due to our spay/neuter programs Duval county shelter admissions have decreased from 33,847 in FY 2002-2003 to 26,063 in FY 2007-2008, Shelter euthanasia has decreased from 23,104 to 17,458 in that same time period. To date we have seen an overall reduction in pet intake of 31% and reductions in puppy and kitten intake of 58% and 64%. Prior to our programs, both shelter admissions and euthanasia in Duval County were increasing by as much as 20% annually. FCNMHP representatives are asked to speak several times a year at conferences about our spay/neuter programs and several communities have instituted spay/neuter programs modeled after our programs. In 2004 FCNMHP was recognized by the Jacksonville Humane Society as Animal Welfare Provider of the year and in the same year our director was named volunteer of the quarter by the City of Jacksonville. FCNMHP staff co-chaired the Southern Regional Spay/Neuter Leadership Conference in 2005 and our director was asked by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty of Animals to head up their rescue efforts in St. Bernard Parrish, LA after hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. Programs offered: FCNMHP offers 3 levels of sterilization programs for pet owners and 3 for feral and stray cat sterilization programs. Pet owners needing assistance call our spay/neuter hotline and are qualified for the appropriate program based on their income and other variables. SpayJax is an income qualified program that offers free spay/neuter surgeries for individuals meeting the specified guidelines. This program includes a rabies vaccination. The City of Jacksonville does require each pet owner to purchase a city license tag for \$15. Surgeries can be scheduled at our spay/neuter clinic or at participating veterinary clinics. SpayJax has a limit of 6 sterilization surgeries per qualifying pet owner per year. Many low-income pet owners have more than 6 pets. Maddie's Fund: In October, 2007, Maddie's Fund® was granted to FCNMHP; a two-year targeted spay/neuter project in Duval County. In order to reduce intake and euthanasia in Duval County animal shelters, Maddie's® Spay/Neuter Project is targeting cats in the 32211 zip code. This area has the highest number of feline shelter admissions. It is expected that for each year of the Project, approximately 1,700 spay/neuter surgeries above the baseline number of 392 will be performed on cats from the target zip code. The Targeted Zip Code Spay/Neuter Project for Duval County focuses on owned, stray, and feral cats in the 32211 area, providing a free spay or neuter surgery and Rabies vaccination. Since starting the program we have spayed and neutered 3,350 cats through the Maddie's Fund. Feral Freedom: This program is a partnership between the City of Jacksonville AC&C and the Best Friends Animal Society. Feral and free roaming cats that are picked up by or

turned in to the City of Jacksonville's Animal Care & Control are transferred to FCNMHP where we spay or neuter the cats, give their distemper and rabies vaccination, treat for ear mites, apply flea prevention, and tip their ear. After the cats recover we then release them back to their territory. Since its inception in August 2008 to December 2008 we spayed and neutered 1,850 cats and anticipate to have 5,000 come through the program in 2009. TNR (Trap Neuter Return): This program is available to all people caring for feral, free roaming, and community cat colonies. Cost per feral cat surgery at our spay/neuter clinic is \$30, this includes the sterilization surgery, distemper and rabies vaccination, ear mite treatment, flea preventative, and an ear tip. All cats must arrive to the clinic in a humane trap, no exceptions. Humane traps are available for loan and require a \$100 refundable deposit per trap. Our Low-Cost program is available to anyone not qualifying under the other programs. Surgeries are discounted and available through our spay/neuter clinic and participating veterinarians. Low Cost Vaccination Clinic: Our Low Cost Vaccination Clinic is open every Saturday from 10 am to 3 pm, the number of days for low-cost vaccinations will increase soon. We are moving into our new permanent clinic location, located at 6817 Norwood Avenue Jacksonville, FL 32208. Low-Cost vaccinations, microchipping flea and heartworm preventative and a variety of tests are available! No Appointments are necessary! Dogs, Cats, Puppies, and Kittens are welcome. Veterinary Care: Full Service Veterinary Care Coming Soon! As we raise the funds needed for additional clinic equipment we will expand our spay/neuter and vaccination services to a full service low-cost veterinary clinic.

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?

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

We do not do adoptions, but all cats and dogs that come through our doors are spayed and neutered. We had to euthanize 30 cats due to poor health issues.

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.

Through this grant request we are seeking funding to subsidize cost for 1400 spay/neuter surgeries through our feral cat Trap-Neuter-Release program. Individuals using the program are asked to make a \$15 donation per surgery. This cost is subsidized by FCNMHP. With an average surgery cost of \$30, FCNMHP is paying \$15 per surgery. In many cases individuals cannot afford the \$15, therefore the surgeries are performed for free with FCNMHP absorbing the full surgery cost. Those who cannot afford the donation are never turned away, but encouraged to volunteer their time at the clinic, but this is not required. Our current programs are working to spay and neuter cats on the First Coast. Maddie's Fund allows people living in the 32211 area of Jacksonville to have all pet, feral, free roaming, and community cats sterilized for free. Our low cost program helps by offering reduced surgery rates, the TNR program offers even lower surgery rates for cats, and we are working with the City of Jacksonville AC&C on our Feral Freedom program. These programs still do not allow us to help everyone who needs assistance sterilizing their feral, free roaming, and community cats. We need a program that will help those who don't qualify under any of our other programs. Cameron Moore our Program Director manages all the programs. We have the ability to carry out this program from advertising to get the word out to the public, offering surgeries 6 days a week at our spay/neuter clinic, tracking all the surgeries and statistics, and reporting our success.

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?

All of our programs are sterilization programs. Our current programs are working to spay and neuter cats on the First Coast. Maddie's Fund allows people living in the 32211 area of Jacksonville to have all pet, feral, free roaming, and community cats sterilized for free. Our low cost program helps by offering reduced surgery rates, the TNR program offers even lower surgery rates for cats, and we are working with the City of Jacksonville AC&C on our Feral Freedom program. These programs still do not allow us to help everyone who needs assistance sterilizing their feral, free roaming, and community cats. We need a program that will help those who don't qualify under any of our other programs. SpayJax is an income qualified program that offers free spay and neuter surgeries for individuals meeting the specified guidelines. This has a limit of 6 pets per qualifying pet owner. Many low income pet owners have more than 6 pets and this program by itself is not sufficient to help this group of people. We need to have the resources to offer assistance to those who don't qualify under any of our other spay/neuter programs. This is why we need this particular grant. Private donations and fundraising initiatives will continue to be the main source for funding for this program.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Jacksonville, Duval County, FL
Total human population in target area:	850,962
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	12.7%

Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	257868
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	212741
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	141827
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	11,094
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	11,866
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	8,368
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	6,006

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

Cats and dogs admitted – the numbers do not reflect feral cats (2,885) Euthanized – feral cats (2,454) The demographic numbers provided by www.census.gov differ with estimates provided by the local government. We believe that the estimated number of feral cats is significantly higher than stated using the formula. Local estimated are said to be closer to 150,000, if not higher. The “regional” population numbers for Jacksonville surpasses 1.1 million. Our target area is inclusive of the “regional” population. Therefore, all of the above numbers are understated when using the www.census.gov statistics. Specifically, if we used the 1.1 million to determine the number of feral cats, our estimate would be closer to 183,333.

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

The most substantial sources of pet overpopulation are low-income pet owners and feral, free roaming, and community cats.

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?

Spay and neuter services are generally available through all licensed veterinary clinics with prices varying. There are also several low-cost clinics available to the general public. There are very few clinics that will handle feral, free roaming, and community cats. We are not aware of any other programs in Duval County that offer free or low-cost rates like we do. Our community needs a high quality, high volume spay/neuter clinic to end the overpopulation crisis.

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:

- Pets in low-income families
- Especially difficult or unique animal overpopulation sources
- Pit bull dogs
- Feral cats
- Special spay/neuter event
- Other

Objectives

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

The goal of this program will be to greatly reduce the growth of the feral, free roaming and community cat population. Every additional surgery provided will eliminate countless numbers of litters, with the goal of eventually eliminating feral cat colonies. Through our TNR program we can offer affordable spay/neuter assistance. Our goal is to increase the number of surgeries to capacity, therefore reducing the number of cats that are euthanized and hopefully putting an end to the cycle. With the funding received through this grant we can add veterinarians to our staff and perform the additional surgeries needed to reach 2,700 surgeries per month.

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

The current base line is 1,800 surgeries per month. Our goal is to increase sterilizations by 900 surgeries per month raising our yearly goal to 32,400 surgeries.

Methods

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

This program is available for caregivers of feral, free roaming and community cat colonies. Our only eligibility requirement is that cats are required to arrive in a humane trap. Humane traps are available for loan at our clinic for a \$100 refundable deposit.

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

FCNMHP heavily promotes all of our programs using every means possible paid and donated. Our main source of referrals is our ongoing donated public service announcements given by Clear Channel Communications; the value of these donations in FY 2007-2008 was in excess of \$195,000. We also utilize paid advertising including television, billboards and printed brochures. Brochures are made available to all local shelters and rescues. All these promotions advertise our spay/neuter hotline, website and programs. We also send out press releases and work with local media to feature our programs. We attend numerous public events each year and distribute program information.

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

This is usually not an issue, but when necessary we have FCNMHP Staff and Volunteers help those in need. We can provide transport via one of our 3 transport vehicles, clients can call and talk to our hotline staff if they are not able to read our brochures, and we are in process of hiring bilingual staff.

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.

FCNMHP Transport Staff assist in the trapping and release of feral cats. All trappers have received training in regards to handling trapped cats. We have 3 transport vehicles that have been customized to safely transport cats. One is an RV and the other two are cargo vans. All cats are transported in humane traps or pet carriers. Cats sterilized through our TNR program are never handled prior to anesthesia. We request that all cats be covered with towels and all traps lined with newspaper for the security of the cat and handler.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

We currently have two full time staffed veterinarians, and have several that participate on a rotating basis. Some donate their time and others offer reduced fees.

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
First Coast No More Homeless Pets Spay/Neuter Clinic	6817 Norwood Ave.	Jacksonville	Florida	32208	904-425-0005	<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	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$30.00
Range for Female Cats	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$30.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

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 checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Parasite Medication	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input 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 type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$18.00"/>
Licensing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$15.00"/>
Ear tipping	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Other	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$1.00"/>

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

All feral, free roaming, and community cats are examined after they are sedated and before surgery. If the cat has injuries that are treatable we will give the necessary treatment while they are sedated for surgery. There is no additional charge for pregnant cats or hernia repair. Rabies and distemper vaccinations are given along with ear mite treatment, flea control, and ear tipping. If requested by the caretaker we will perform FeLV FIV Snap test, administer other vaccinations, and assign a city license for additional fees. Note: Other treatment fees vary.

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 we continue promoting our TNR program and generate media attention, more and more people are calling to learn about the program and schedule appointments. Some weeks we see double the amount of calls regarding the TNR program. With the additional funding from this grant we can increase the number of feral cat surgeries which will allow us to add veterinarians to the rotation to perform the additional surgeries. The goal is to increase surgeries from 1,800 to 2,700 per month.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 1400 Dogs: 0

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$21,000.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$15.00

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

We are currently building a new High Quality / High Volume Spay/Neuter Clinic scheduled to open the end of April 2009. Our clinic build is being funded by Petsmart Charities equipment grants, DJ&T Foundation dog equipment grant, The City of Jacksonville Northwest Quadrant Building Grant, and by private donations. Petco provided the grant to purchase one of our transport vans. Our

clinic is one of only five high volume spay/neuter clinics in the U.S. At full capacity we will be equipped to perform over 200 sterilization surgeries a day.

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: 08/01/09/ **Projected end date:** 08/01/10

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 will continue funding the program through fundraising events, private donations, and will continue our relationships with our grantors from The Best Friends Animal Society, Maddie's Fund, and the City of Jacksonville. We also have a fundraising team that is continually searching for new donation relationships and grants.

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.

All local media contacts will be sent a press release announcing the grant support and promoting the license plate. We will include a promotion link on our website, myspace, LinkedIn, and Facebook pages; we will also distribute literature at our public events. Our transport vehicles also have the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate on them.