

Grant ID: 102

Title of Proposal: Low-Income Spay/Neuter Assistance Program

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00

Check Payable To: Humane Society of St. Lucie County

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Humane Society of St. Lucie County	Website Address: http://www.hsslc.org/
Person Submitting Proposal: Frank Andrews	Position: Executive Director
Organization Business Address: 100 Savannah Road	City: Fort Pierce
State: Florida	Zip: 34982
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 772-461-0687	Fax: 772-466-0605
Cell: 772-519-6358	Email Address: fangrews@hsslc.org

Agency Details

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$1,609,413.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$1,472,957.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 19 Part Time: 14

Number of Active Volunteers: 35

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 100.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? This funding opportunity was learned of through the Florida Animal Control Association.

Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable): 2006

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
Annette Miller	Chair	772-461-5894	President of Brokerage Firm	amiller106@aol.com
Bob Davis	Vice President	772-871-6566	Retired GM Treasurer	getsco@bellsouth.net
Carroll Frischkorn	Treasurer	772-466-1616	Office Manager, Tri-County Animal Hospital	carrolste@bellsouth.net
Heather Lueke	Board Member	772-465-3275	Attorney, St. Lucie County	luekeh@stlucieco.org
Pam Landers	Secretary	772-461-5860	Case Worker, Council of Aging	planders@coasl.com
Pat Dunning	Board Member	772-398-8761	Nurse, Welfare (Visiting)	pdunning10@htcplus.net
Priscilla Clancy	Board Member	772-460-1806	Teacher, Retired	pclancy_100@hotmail.com
Stephen Navaretta	Board Member	772-340-5121	Attorney, Navaretta & Navaretta	snavaretta@aol.com

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

5326 cats and 3629 dogs were admitted.

648 cats and 1272 dogs were adopted.

3712 cats and 1558 dogs were euthanized.

1066 cats and 911 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

The Humane Society of St. Lucie County offers the following animal programs: Foster Program - The program is designed to provide temporary homes for potentially adoptable animals that are not immediately ready to enter into adoption. Foster volunteers allow animals that are too young to be vaccinated or those that have some temporary condition, into their home to attain benefits from care outside the shelter. Homeless Pets Club - The program is designed to promote animal ownership. The club meets periodically with school related clubs, and implements the promotion of selected animals. All adoption marketing components are placed in the responsibility of the student. These include developing posters, flyers, e-mails, etc. to assist in the adoption promotion for the animal. Junior Vet Program - The program is geared for youth ages 6-12 and includes elements that introduce participants to responsible pet ownership and safe animal care practices. Low Cost Adoption Program - The program is designed to unite caring owners with dogs and cats that are in need of loving homes. "New" homes receive pet care literature and samples of dog/cat food at the time of adoption. Several times throughout the year, the Humane Society promotes spaying or neutering all adopted pets at no charge. Off Site Program - The program promotes the adoption of animals at Petsmart, PETCO, and at various events throughout the county.

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?

Not Applicable

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

Not Applicable

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 Humane Society of St. Lucie County serves over 200,000 residents yearly, as it is estimated that over 55,000 dogs reside in the County. The mission of the organization is to provide compassionate care and safe shelter for homeless animals and education to the community on responsible companion animal stewardship. The organization supports the adoption of healthy and loving animals and implements a variety of educational resources geared to enhance quality animal care techniques, safety measures, spaying, neutering, emergency disaster planning, medical care and treatment for St. Lucie County animal owners and lovers. A Board of Directors, 35 Volunteers, and 37 employees collaboratively care for approximately 10,000 animals received yearly from animal control agencies and county residents. As a result, over 6,000 unwanted pets have been euthanized each year. It is important to note that nearby municipalities and the unincorporated areas outside the Humane Society's jurisdiction do not have

ordinances to help control the over population of unwanted pets, however the Human Society has contractual agreements with these entities that include the City of Port St. Lucie, the City of Fort Pierce, and unincorporated St. Lucie County. Key personnel who will oversee and manage all aspects of the program consist of: Mr. Frank Andrews serves as the Executive Director. His background includes founding member of the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators, American Humane Field Consultant, Director of the Michigan Humane Society, Orlando Humane Society and more recently County of Los Angeles Care and Control. After retirement to Florida, he joined the Humane Society of St. Lucie County to use his experience and expertise to help direct the organization toward developing support programs and community participation to reduce euthanasia. Virginia Jordan is the Chief Financial Officer for the Humane Society of St. Lucie County. Ms. Jordan, a degreed accountant, directs and manages the financial programs including grants, budgeting, and receipt of revenue and expenditure of funds. She has been with the Humane Society for 10 Years. Dr. Sara Mathews received her ----- David Robertson is the Shelter Operations Manager. He provides direct management assistance to the program and coordinates direct media relations with respect to the purpose of the grant. Mr. Robertson has over 20 years of experience in personnel and management and has been with the shelter for 5 years. Jackie Lyman is a Certified Veterinary Technician, with 20 years experience in the veterinary field. Ms. Lyman has been with the Humane Society for 8 years. Her duties include the preparation, assisting and monitoring of all surgical procedures and personnel, including pre-medication, anesthetic, pain meds and placing IV catheters in surgical patients. Ms. Lyman is also responsible for post surgical procedure and client follow-up.

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?

The current sterilization program is funded through revenue collected from county pet licenses. The license funds are disbursed as required by county statute. A designated portion of funding received is paid to the Humane Society of St. Lucie County for sterilization services. Additional resources are being requested due to the increased need for the low-cost spay / neuter services in the region.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	St. Lucie County
Total human population in target area:	246,499
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	11.3
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	74697
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	61625
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	41084
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	5326
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	3629
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	3712
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1558
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.	
The above stated information is reflective of the target areas animal population.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:	
The most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation are in the northern section of St. Lucie County and parts of the City of Fort Pierce, which are not only impoverished, but also rural.	
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?	
The Humane Society offers services to outside clients through use of a county-wide voucher program. This program is available four days a week and staffs a full-time veterinarian. Requested funding will make available a fifth day to the current schedule for low-income residents. By doing so, would significantly increase the volume of spay/neutering provided, particularly for pit bulls and feral cats.	

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 following objectives will be met with this funding: To complete 600 spay / neuter sterilizations, specifically for low-income residents, between August 1, 2009 and August 1, 2010. To increase clinic hours and available veterinarian services from four days to five days.

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

Grant funding will allow low-income persons, that otherwise would not be able to afford sterilization services, an opportunity to spay / neuter their pets. This will result in an increased number of pet sterilizations, approximately 600, significantly above the existing baseline data.

Methods

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

Program eligibility will be based on the following criteria: Completion of the Statement of Financial Need Form, Show proof of Residency in St. Lucie County, and illustrate proof of Animal Ownership. Once approved, qualified pets will receive a complete pre-surgical exam, which includes up-to-date vaccinations.

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

The current distribution of spay/neutering vouchers occurs regularly at the Humane Society Shelter, and at three local animal control agencies within the County, which includes the City of Fort Pierce, the City of Port St. Lucie, and St. Lucie County. The projected program will be advertised through the above stated sources, in addition to flyer advertisements which will be dispersed to local stores, petting activities, church carnivals and special events, fairs, supermarkets, and distributed in numerous targeted communities. Some examples include Wal-Mart, Kmart, Tractor Supply, Publix Super Markets, and the St. Lucie County Fair. The program will also be advertised through a Public Service Announcement (PSA) featured on SLC TV, Humane Society brochures, and via the Humane Society website at www.hsslc.org/. It is highly anticipated the advertisements will reach the targeted audience, as the selected locations for promoting the events are located directly within the low-income communities.

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

Barriers to the program were identified during the projects planning and development stage. The Humane Society will contribute the following to allow success for the project: •Clerical staffing is readily available to assist applicants in completing the necessary forms and gathering application paperwork. •There are three on-site staff members to assist persons speaking other languages with the above stated tasks. These individuals are fluent in Spanish. •St. Lucie County provides public transportation throughout the county at below costs rates.

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, the project will not provide transportation of animals by sources other than the client.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

The Humane Society currently employs a full time veterinarian onsite. The veterinarian provides medical care, vaccinations, and spays / neuter services. These services will expand from four to five days if funding is granted.

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Dr. Sara Mathews	100 Savannah Road	Fort Pierce	Florida	34982	772-461-0687	<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	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>
Range for Female Cats	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$35.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$60.00"/>
Range for Male Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$50.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$75.00"/>
Range for Female Dogs	<input type="text" value="\$25.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$65.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$90.00"/>

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 type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$12.00"/>
Other Vaccination if Due	<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="\$10.00"/>
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 type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Testing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Licensing	<input 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="\$10.00"/>
Ear tipping	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Other	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

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

Other vaccinations are the responsibility of the client, in which there is a \$10.00 fee charged for each vaccine provided.

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

Yes, this is a county-wide voucher program. Each participant will submit the required documents during screening and undergo a personal interview to determine eligibility for the program (i.e. Statement of Financial Need Form, Proof of residency in St. Lucie County, and Proof of animal ownership). If approved for the program, a record will be kept on file with this information, in addition to a specified time frame for utilization of the spay/neuter voucher.

Other Information

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

There is a significant need for this program. The Humane Society of St. Lucie County is the only entity offering spay / neuter services at a discounted rate in the target area. Due to the increased demand for spay / neuter services within the county, particularly in the low income regions, the program does not encompass the necessary resources to meet the increasing needs, which is the primary reason for applying.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 200 **Dogs:** 400

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$42.00

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

All expenses have been provided within this application.

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.

The Humane Society is thoroughly examining funding options and seeking input from stakeholders and other community groups. Over the past couple months the agency has had several charitable events and fundraisers, including the "Fur Ball 2008" Extravaganza (See enclosed CD), in an effort to seek volunteers and raise monies that support its programs. The organization will continue to seek grant funds, governmental contracts, and sponsor fundraisers to sustain its mission. Monies received from County ordinances, along with matching funds from grants / donations, will ensure the agency can sustain the project in the future. In addition, the Humane Society has embarked on a concerted effort to address cost control as a priority, as the agency's need of services continues to increase, and will continue its efforts to increase cost efficiency. There has been measurable progress.

Promotion of Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate

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

As previously noted, the proposed program, including the Florida Animal Friend Spay / Neuter License Plate Program, will receive publicity through information announcements located at the City of Fort Pierce, the City of Port St. Lucie, and St. Lucie County Administrative Offices. Flyer advertisements will be dispersed to local stores, petting activities, church carnivals and special events, fairs, supermarkets, and distributed in numerous targeted communities. Some examples include Wal-Mart, Kmart, Tractor Supply, Publix Super Markets, and the St. Lucie County Fair. The program will also be advertised through a Public Service Announcement (PSA) featured on SLC TV, Humane Society brochures, and via the Humane Society website at www.hsslc.org/.