

Grant ID: 43

Title of Proposal: The "Big Fix" Phase II

Agency Type: Non-Profit

Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00

Check Payable To: Leon County Humane Society

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Leon County Humane Society

Person Submitting Proposal: Sonya White

Organization Business Address: 413 Timberlane Rd.

State: Tallahassee, FL 32312

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 850-224-9193

Cell: 904-612-1802

Website Address: www.LCHS.info

Position: Executive Director

City: Tallahassee

Zip: 32312

Fax: 850-224-5209

Email Address: swhite@lchs.info

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/01/08 **End:** 12/31/08

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$494,315.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$543,372.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 5 Part Time: 2

Number of Active Volunteers: 294

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 121.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Through original LCHS "Big Fix" grant application in 2006.

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
Angela Coleman, DVM	Honorary Board Member	850-878-8800	Veterinarian	a_coleman13@hotmail.com
Angela Jordan	Board Member	850-694-3777	Marketing Director Southland Properties	ajordan@svn.com
Cindi Owen Briley	Board Member	850-422-2800	Owner - Owen Title Company	cowenbriley@owentitle.com
Diana Orrick	Secretary	850-644-2591	FSU Computer Department	borismonster@yahoo.com
Fred Tedio	Board Member	850-219-9800	Owner-Uptown Cafe	fred@uptowncafeandcatering.com
Karen Ostendorp	President	850-322-0769	IS Manager - Comcast	kostendorp@comcast.net
Lauchlin Waldoch	Board Member	850-212-5400	Attorney	lauchlin@mclawgroup.com
Nick Waller	Treasurer	850-933-3044	GM-WCTV Chnl 6	nick.waller@wctv.com

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

279 cats and 130 dogs were admitted.

214 cats and 113 dogs were adopted.

0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

1232 cats and 828 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

LCHS is the oldest animal rescue organization in the greater Tallahassee area, with a 49-year history of improving the lives of companion animals. Supported completely by donations, membership, fund raising events, corporate support and grants, LCHS rescues and finds permanent homes for hundreds of animals each year. Our three program priorities are as follows: 1. Foster and Adoption--Our extensive Foster Program is one of the largest volunteer foster programs in the State of Florida. LCHS takes in animals from area shelters and places them in temporary foster homes where they receive and benefit from love, socialization, training, and veterinary care (e.g., exams, treatments, spay/neuter). In the foster home environment, the animal learns to relax and reveal his or her true personality. In turn, foster families provide potential adopters with critical information and insight into the animals' specific personality, strengths, and weaknesses. 2. Spay/Neuter Outreach--With support from grant funding, fund raising, corporate sponsorship, and donations, LCHS provides vouchers to people to have their pets sterilized and/or receive critically-needed medical care. Throughout the past ten+ years we have created a very successful and efficient community-wide spay/neuter assistance program which includes a strong, professional relationships with 20-plus veterinary clinics in the area. These clinics, with the support of our Spay/Neuter Outreach Program, have and will continue to provide thousands of services to pets in need. 3. Humane Education--Precluding mistreatment of companion animals can be significantly effected through pertinent educational programs. Our educational programs reach community members of all ages, ethnicities, and income levels. We provide practical humane information and education, e.g., behavior training, problem-solving techniques for pet owners, basic animal care, T-touch and therapy workshops, etc. We emphasize the benefits and importance of responsible pet ownership through workshop series, visits to private and public schools, information booths at community events, and presentations to civic, senior, and youth organizations. We further provide individual counseling and referrals for new pet owners. In summary, LCHS members, staff, and volunteers work diligently to: relieve animal suffering; prevent animal cruelty; eliminate the overpopulation of animals; promote humane education; and enhance the animal/human bond.

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?

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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.

Our successes with past outreach grants pertaining to sterilization of cats and dogs clearly demonstrate our ability to carry out the new proposal for the "Big Fix Phase II". We have the KNOWLEDGE and EXPERIENCE to ensure that the appropriate target audience(s) are identified and reached; educated and informed of our sterilization programs; and that participating veterinary clinics formally work with such programs to ensure that they are accomplished in the most expeditious, safe, and cost-conscious manner. The individuals responsible for administering this Program have successfully administered spay/neuter programs through grants from Florida Animal Friend, Petco, DJ&T, and past grants from PetSmart Charities. Personnel in charge are as follows: Sonya White--Executive Director who brings a wealth of experience, including 8 years as Director of the Jacksonville, FL Humane Society and 10 additional years of public service in the non-profit sector. She has steered and will continue to steer our organization to provide greater services, with greater effectiveness and efficiency, partially through submitting feasible/fundable grants to those agencies that share our values and mission. Barbara Hatch--A retired R.N., has been the Office Manager for LCHS for 10 years. Her duties include the administrative aspects of managing the day-to-day affairs of LCHS, including handling requests and required paperwork concerning financial assistance and the operations for our spay/neuter programs. Her medical education and experience are invaluable assets for nursing sick animals and maintaining the health of foster animals. Liz Maryanski--A 10+ year volunteer with LCHS, is an accountant (CPA, MBA), and also the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at Florida State University. Her invaluable assistance and dedication to our cause have resulted in a financial management reporting system that serves as a model for other animal service organizations. In conclusion, our history, personnel, programs, and unparalleled successes with past spay/neuter programs clearly indicate that we are capable of accomplishing what we say we will do. Moreover, we accomplish our goals with exceptional fiduciary responsibility and accountability.

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?

Through donations, fund-raising and grant writing LCHS expects to generate \$94,000 this year for community-wide spay/neuter surgeries and medical care. However, the great successes of past years were made possible by additional funding from granting agencies. Without grant support, LCHS would have only been able to sterilize approximately 23% of the dogs and cats sterilized during FY 2008. These grant monies, unfortunately, are not permanent (i.e., year-end expiration). By applying for continuation grants for current programs and other grant monies for new programs, we are able to sterilize many more dogs and cats, and to accomplish such with an "economy of scale." The more animals we can sterilize with additional grant monies the more positive impact we will have locally in reducing the numbers of animals turned in to our city operated shelter, and ultimately less euthanasia.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Tallahassee/Leon County
Total human population in target area:	272896
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	18.2
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	82696
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	68224
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	45483
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	10,898 (dogs and cats)
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	same as above
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	5,363 (dogs and cats)
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	Same as above
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.	
N/A	

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

There are three main sources: First, low-income residents (families and individuals) are often unable to afford sterilization, especially in this difficult economic time. Second, the extremely large population of college and university students is a significant cause of pet overpopulation in our community. Most are away from home for the first time, rent homes or apartments, adopt or purchase a pet, neglect or have insufficient funds for sterilization, and then abandon the pet or relinquish it to the city Animal Shelter upon leaving for the summer or graduation. Third, the feral cat population continues to grow. As data from national animal welfare organizations indicate, unsterilized mating male and female cats can produce tens of thousands of unwanted offspring within a ten-year period.

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?

First, responsible families and individuals with sufficient financial resources pay their private veterinarians for sterilization surgeries. However, the current economy is making it more difficult for responsible pet owners to "do the right thing" with spay/neuter. Second, through donations generated from fund raising events, membership, corporate sponsorships and grant funding, LCHS sterilizes all foster animals prior to adoption and provides community wide spay/neuter assistance (as grant monies are available) for animals in the Big Bend (four-county) area. Third, the municipal (government run) Animal Shelter, through general funding and/or limited funding from the Animal Services Foundation (ASF), will provide assistance for spay/neuter of owned animals in the general community via a voucher system. Fourth, the local Spay and Neuter Clinic (Animal Aid) offers low-cost surgeries and medical care, but they do have a waiting list for such services. However, past and current resources for LCHS (and the other two agencies) are significantly insufficient to meet demand. For example, the Spay and Neuter Clinic has a 3 month waiting list for sterilization surgeries. Moreover, the municipal Animal Shelter has a limited number of spay/neuter vouchers that can be distributed each month. For LCHS, in particular, our past funding for "The Big Fix" Program expired (2006-2007). The success of this program is well-evidenced by the data contained in our completed project report (submitted 9/07). However, comparatively to the human population growth the animal overpopulation problem also continues to grow! The additional funding would not only permit "The Big Fix Phase II" to be implemented but, moreover, enable us to increase its effectiveness. This grant request focuses on assisting low-income residents, specific people of the population that have the greatest need. For example, new areas to be targeted would be families living in the ever-expanding neighborhoods surrounding Tallahassee's major educational institutions---Florida State University, Florida A & M University, Tallahassee Community College, and Lively Technical Institute. In addition this grant request will also address sterilization efforts for the feral cat population! Our past and current programs regarding feral cats have been successful, but LIMITED due to funding shortages.

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)?

LCHS requests \$25,000 for the "Big Fix Phase II" project. A portion of this grant (\$15,000) will be dedicated to sterilizing companion animals throughout our community owned by low-income residents, specific people of the population that have the greatest need, especially in these difficult economic times. With the average spay/neuter cost = \$61 (dogs & cats) this would result in the sterilization of approximately 246 companion animals. Indeed, data collected from past voucher programs 52% of low-income participants explicitly stated they would NOT have sterilized their animals without financial assistance. The remaining \$10,000 of the "Big Fix Phase II" project would be dedicated to feral cat sterilizations with local TNR programs. With the average spay/neuter cost = \$47 (cats only) this would result in the sterilization of approximately 213 feral cats. During 2008 LCHS volunteers trapped and sterilized 198 cats, of which 51 kittens were adopted and 147 were returned to their colonies. This is just one of four known TNR programs existing in our community. Grant funding will make it possible for us to further this important program, increase the

number of sterilized feral cats, and continue making a positive impact on reducing the overpopulation of these animals. In summary, approximately 459 dogs and cats will be sterilized as a result of achieving both objectives of our proposal.

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

During the 2006/2007 "Big Fix" success, the following sterilizations were accomplished: 100 cats 77 dogs TOTAL of 177 animals. Achieving our projected figures discussed above for the "Big Fix Phase II" program we will have sterilized: 353 cats 106 dogs TOTAL of 459 animals. This is an increase of 259% for the number of expected sterilization surgeries to be performed.

Methods

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

According to the most recent census, the per capita income for Leon County is \$21,024 and median household income is \$39,562. The percent of residents living below poverty in the target area is 18%. Grant eligibility for each individual or household will be based on applicants providing self-reported income using the latest census data as the threshold. For example, an individual living alone would be eligible if their income is \$21,024 or less and a multi-person household would be eligible if their annual income is \$39,562 or less. The program will offer vouchers on a first-come, first-serve basis until the grant funding is exhausted. The client is responsible for scheduling an appointment with a participating veterinary clinic of their choice. The approved application is faxed to the veterinary clinic, when services are rendered a complete bill is sent to LCHS and in turn LCHS pays the bill from the grant monies. Vouchers for spay/neuter of feral cats will follow the same format for TNR programs currently existing within our community. Appointments will be made with participating veterinarians, completed bills will be faxed to clinics and LCHS will pay for the spay/neuter surgeries from grant monies.

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

The continuation of "The Big Fix Phase II" Program will parallel what occurred for our last grant with Florida Animal Friend, Inc.; however, it would be expanded to include a potentially greater audience. The Program will be advertised on our web site, through our weekly e-letters (which reach 4k supporters) press releases, radio programs and on our road marquee (which is seen by 18k people each day). Announcements would be placed prominently in veterinary clinics throughout the county especially those located in the target areas.

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

Transportation needs, illiteracy, and cultural hurdles have not been an issue with past grant programs. However, volunteers are available to provide a minimal number of transport and translation services to help accommodate clients.

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.

N/A

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

Throughout the past years, LCHS has created a strong and effective partnership with 20+ local veterinarian clinics. These veterinarians are enthusiastic and willing to participate with LCHS campaigns; they understand the long term impact of reaching the focus population of this grant, with both direct services and education.

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Animal Aid Spay/Neuter Clinic	2270 Boone Blvd.	Tallahassee	FL	32303	850-386-4148	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Animal Hospital at Southwood	2528 Capital Circle S.E.	Tallahassee	FL	32311	850-942-6650	<input type="checkbox"/>
Animal Medical Clinic	2701 Mahan Drive	Tallahassee	FL	32308	850-878-8288	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Animal Medical Clinic	1455 W. Washington St.	Monticello	FL	32361	850-997-3750	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bevis Animal Hospital	1130 March Rd.	Tallahassee	FL	32311	850-878-1880	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bradfordville Animal Hospital	6714 Thomasville Rd.	Tallahassee	FL	32312	850-893-3047	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buck Lake Animal Hospital	3514 Mahan Dr.	Tallahassee	FL	32308	850-878-4799	<input type="checkbox"/>
Capital Circle Veterinary Hospital	1826 Capital Circle N.E.	Tallahassee	FL	32308	850-877-1149	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cross Creek Animal Hospital	2728 Apalachee Parkway	Tallahassee	FL	32301	850-656-2525	<input type="checkbox"/>
Killearn Animal Hospital	3629 Cagney Dr.	Tallahassee	FL	32309	850-893-6454	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lake Jackson Animal Hospital	3512 N. Monroe	Tallahassee	FL	32303	850-562-6662	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lakewood Animal Hospital	4882 Portal Dr.	Tallahassee	FL	32303	850-562-5116	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lawrence Animal Hospital	43 N. Cleveland St.	Quincy	FL	32351	850-627-8338	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mahan Animal Clinic	3348 Mahan Dr.	Tallahassee	FL	32308	850-402-0557	<input type="checkbox"/>
North Florida Animal Hospital	2701 North Monroe	Tallahassee	FL	32303	850-385-5141	<input type="checkbox"/>
Northampton Animal Clinic	2910 Kerry Forest Parkway	Tallahassee	FL	32309	850-668-8031	<input type="checkbox"/>
Northwood Animal Hospital	1881 Martin Luther King Blvd.	Tallahassee	FL	32303	850-385-8181	<input type="checkbox"/>
Novey Animal Hospital	1157 E. Tennessee St.	Tallahassee	FL	32303	850-385-8181	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oakwood Animal Hospital	2528 W. Tharpe	Tallahassee	FL	32304	850-386-1138	<input type="checkbox"/>
Owens Animal Hospital	601 S. Jefferson St.	Perry	FL	32347	850-584-5621	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paws & Claws Animal Hospital	3819 Bradfordville Rd.	Tallahassee	FL	32309	850-906-0444	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
South Monroe Animal Hospital	2255 S. Monroe St	Tallahassee	FL	32301	850-877-7154	<input type="checkbox"/>
Timberlane Animal Hospital	426 Timberlane Rd.	Tallahassee	FL	32312	850-893-3112	<input type="checkbox"/>
Westwood Animal Hospital	216 Ausley Rd	Tallahassee	FL	32304	850-576-4168	<input 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	\$0.00	\$39.00	\$39.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$54.00	\$54.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$69.00	\$69.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$79.00	\$79.00

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 type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$30.00
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 \$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 \$62.00
Pain Medication	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$20.00
Parasite Medication	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$22.00
Testing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$25.00
Licensing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$0.00
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 \$0.00

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

The "Big Fix Phase II" grant program will only pay for dog & cat spay/neuter surgeries; all other medical expenses will be covered by the owner.

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

Yes, this is a voucher program offering financial assistance to a specific targeted population. The eligibility of each individual or household will be determined based on self-reported income of applicants using the current census data as a threshold. For example, an individual living alone would be eligible for the program if his or her annual income is \$21,024 or less, and a multi-person household would be eligible if their income is \$39,562 or less. The program will offer vouchers on a first-come, first-serve basis until grant funding is exhausted. The client is responsible for scheduling the spay/neuter appointment as well as paying for any additional medical costs. The approved application is faxed to the veterinary clinic, when services are rendered a complete bill is sent to LCHS, and in turn LCHS pays the bill from the grant monies. The feral cat component will be incorporated into this established voucher program. Spay/neuter surgeries of the feral cats will be paid from grant monies and vaccines/rabies/ear tipping will be paid directly by LCHS from other funds not associated with this grant.

Other Information

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

Our history and experience with past spay/neuter programs attests to our ability to achieve the goals of "The Big Fix Phase II" Project. Studies indicate that lower income persons are less likely to seek regular veterinary services including spay/neuter for their pets when compared to higher income persons. Past grant data reflects 52% of the participants targeted in low-income neighborhoods would NOT have sterilized their pet without financial assistance. These are specific people of the population that have the greatest need; pets and people we can assist especially in these difficult economic times.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 353 **Dogs:** 106

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$55.00

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

As stated previously low-income individuals and families participating in this spay/neuter voucher program are explicitly responsible for other procedures or medications required. For the feral cats, LCHS will directly pay any non-spay/neuter procedures or vaccinations required from our operating budget not the "Big Fix Phase II" grant monies.

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: 09/01/09/ **Projected end date:** 08/31/10

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.

LCHS' spay/neuter programs have been successfully implemented throughout Leon County in the past. LCHS has seen that the successful continuation of local spay/neuter programs and resultant publicity acts as a motivational factor for generating additional donations, fund-raising and grant writing efforts. Business leaders and individual citizens within our community have demonstrated their willingness to financially support SUCCESSFUL programs involved with reducing pet-overpopulation and ultimately reducing euthansia. In addition, the success of our programs serve as "ammunition" to support spay/neuter efforts at city,county and state governmental levels.

Promotion of Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate

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

Promotion of the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate program will conducted in concert with any and all "Big Fix Phase II" promotions. This shall be accomplished via printed newsletters, radio programs, e-letters to supporters, press releases, TV interviews, articles, flyers, and the LCHS webpage. Each applicant will receive printed information on the license plate campaign, providing specific directions on how to acquire these special plates and the great good that derives from their purchase of the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate.