

Grant ID: 44

Title of Proposal: Dade County Spay/Neuter Project

Agency Type: Municipal

Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00

Check Payable To: BCC-Animal Services Trust Fund

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Miami-Dade Animal Services	Website Address: www.miamidade.gov/animals
Person Submitting Proposal: Sara Pizano, DVM	Position: Director
Organization Business Address: 7401 NW 74 th St.	City: Miami
State: FL	Zip: 33166
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 305-805-5982	Fax: 305-805-1619
Cell: 786-295-5402	Email Address: spizano@miamidade.gov

Agency Details

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$9,300,000.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$9,300,000.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 116 Part Time: 9

Number of Active Volunteers: 80

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 211.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Florida Animal Control Association

Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable): none

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
Sara Pizano, DVM	Director	305-805-5982	Veterinarian	spizano@miamidade.gov

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

13585 cats and 20811 dogs were admitted.

1170 cats and 4702 dogs were adopted.

11963 cats and 9901 dogs were euthanized.

1051 cats and 5168 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

(*spay/neuter numbers reflect animals sterilized and adopted) Animal Services hosts a very large adoption program, rescue group partnership, medical and puppy foster care and is responsible for picking up stray and injured dogs.

If your program performs adoptions, are all animals sterilized before adoption?

No

If not all, what percentage of animals are not currently sterilized before adoption?

6%

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

Animals who are ill or too young may not be sterilized prior to adoption. In addition, our surgery schedule may be booked and the surgery appointment made at a later time.

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

Adopters must sign a release and leave a \$50 refundable deposit that is returned when the pet is sterilized. Adopters are fined \$500 for non-compliance.

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.

Sara Pizano, DVM and director will be responsible for this program. During my tenure I have been responsible for all spay/neuter programs we previously hosted at our spay/neuter clinic and on our mobile unit.

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?

Animal Services recently received a \$22,000 grant through our community coalition from Maddie's Fund. We are currently hosting a once weekly free cat spay/neuter day on our mobile unit. An average of 47 cats have been done each of the four days we have been doing the program. We are turning people away each week as there is a huge need for affordable spay/neuter services.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Miami-Dade County
Total human population in target area:	2,387,170
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	15.3%
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	723385
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	596793
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	397862
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	13,585
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	20,811

Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	11,963
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	9,901
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. I believe the numbers are accurate.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: The insufficient number of low cost spay/neuter options, lack of education and cultural beliefs that spay/neuter is cruel and having litters is 'natural'. We have proof that constituents will take advantage of low cost or free options if available.	
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? Four (4) non-profits and Animal Services combined offer less than 20,000 low cost or free spay/neuter surgeries a year. That number is insufficient compared to our human and thus animal population.	
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: <input type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Especially difficult or unique animal overpopulation sources <input type="checkbox"/> Pit bull dogs <input type="checkbox"/> Feral cats <input type="checkbox"/> Special spay/neuter event <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Objectives

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

If awarded a \$25,000 grant, we would use our mobile spay/neuter unit to provide 16 days of free cat spays and neuters to total approximately 500 surgeries. If a co-pay was required, we would have to have permission from our Board of County Commissioners.

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

The grant would provide for 500 free surgeries in one calendar year.

Methods

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

The need for low cost or free spay/neuter surgeries is enormous so in an effort to perform as many surgeries as possible, there would be no eligibility requirement.

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

To advertise the program we would do press releases, add it to the 311 Call Taker Center Knowledge Base that handles 150k phone calls for us annually, e-mail all rescue groups and non-profits already doing low cost surgeries, add it to our website, discuss during radio, print and TV interviews and more.

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

By county ordinance, all our communication with the public must be done in English, Spanish and Creole. Clients would be responsible for transportation and the program would be advertised on TV and radio thus eliminating the illiteracy barrier.

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.

The client would be responsible for transportation.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

For this program we would be utilizing our per diem veterinarians so would not be using private practitioners.

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Sara Pizano, DVM	7401 NW 74th St.	Miami	FL	33166	305-805-5982	<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	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00

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

Ear tipping Required Optional Not Available No Yes
Other Required Optional Not Available No Yes

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

The fee for rabies vaccinations is \$10 for the general public and \$3 for low income individuals. Ear tipping would be required on outdoor or feral cats.

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

This is not a voucher program.

Other Information

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

The program would be for sixteen free cat spay/neuter surgery days on our mobile unit during the year. With that schedule, we could do approximately 500 surgeries. If an associated fee was a requirement of the grant, Animal Services would have to have approval from the Board of County Commissioners but at this time we do not have a fee in our fee schedule.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 500 **Dogs:** 0

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$50.00

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

The cost to run the mobile unit will be absorbed in our operating budget. We offer the public rabies vaccinations for \$10 (\$3 if fixed income) and microchips for \$10. Clients would be responsible for paying those fees.

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: 10/01/09/ **Projected end date:** 09/30/10

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 recently implemented an online donation feature to our website. In FY 07/08, there were over 300,000 visits to our website so we expect a high volume of donations to our trust fund that could be used to continue the program. In addition, the Board of County Commissioners recently approved the establishment of the Animal Services Foundation that will focus on community wide spay/neuter programs.

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.

Over 300,000 people visited our website last year so the Florida Animal Friends would receive great exposure. We are on a variety of TV and radio shows weekly and featured in many print journals throughout Dade County. We would highlight the spay/neuter license plate every opportunity we received.