

Grant ID: 84

**Title of Proposal:** Animobile at Work  
**Agency Type:** Municipal  
**Total Funding Requested:** \$20,000.00  
**Check Payable To:** Pinellas County BoCC

## Application Information

### Demographics

<b>Name of Applicant Agency:</b> Pinellas County Animal Services	<b>Website Address:</b> <a href="http://www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices">www.pinellascounty.org/animalservices</a>
<b>Person Submitting Proposal:</b> Dr. Welch Agnew	<b>Position:</b> Director
<b>Organization Business Address:</b> 12450 Ulmerton Road	<b>City:</b> Largo
<b>State:</b> FL	<b>Zip:</b> 33774
<b>Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):</b> 727-582-2625	<b>Fax:</b> 727-582-2637
<b>Cell:</b> 727-459-1766	<b>Email Address:</b> <a href="mailto:eagnew@pinellascounty.org">eagnew@pinellascounty.org</a>

### Agency Details

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

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$5,080,133.00

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$4,957,020.00

**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 66 Part Time: 0

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 66

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 96.00

**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** Pinellas Animal Partners along with website and various other announcements

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

#### Describe your agency:

##### Services Provided

- Unlimited Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter

##### Organization Structure:

- City, county, or tribal agency
- Private nonprofit agency

- Foster Network
- Animal Control
- Spay/Neuter Services
- Other

Other

**List your current board of directors:**

#### **Applicant Qualifications**

**For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:**

14053 cats and 7747 dogs were admitted.

3650 cats and 1846 dogs were adopted.

8471 cats and 3046 dogs were euthanized.

4216 cats and 1844 dogs were sterilized.

**Briefly describe your animal programs:**

PCAS is a municipal, open admission shelter. Animals that enter the shelter are held for a designated time depending upon their status to allow them to be reclaimed by their owners. After this holding period all animals are examined and determined if they are suitable for adoption. Those that are not are euthanized and those that are are put into adoptions. All are sterilized (unless previously done) prior to leaving the shelter. Spay/neuter surgeries are also performed for animals of county citizens. Both cats and dogs for those on public assistance are done free of charge. Any citizen can have their cat spayed or neutered for a low cost on a space available basis.

**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?**

**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.**

Currently we have a mobile surgical unit that travels to 4 areas of the county to service low income citizens. While at these locations, the staff of the mobile unit performs spay/neuter procedures in the morning and administers rabies vaccinations and licenses for the pets of any county citizen in the afternoon. Due to budget cuts the frequency of deployments of the mobile unit has been significantly reduced. This program would be administered under the direction of the PCAS Director (Dr. Welch Agnew, DVM, MPH, DACVPM) and the Operations Director, Mr. Greg Andrews (CPM) while the day to day administration of the program's budget will be conducted by Ms Kathy Shipley, our senior budget analyst with 10 years of experience at PCAS.

**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?**

Though we currently have a mobile surgical unit as described above, the deployment of this unit has been severely curtailed (1192 surgeries were performed on this vehicle in FY 07 and only 376 in FY 08). Due to continued budget cuts, this unit will no longer be deployed in FY 10.

#### **Target Population**

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):</b>	Pinellas County, Florida
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	910260
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	8.2
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	275837
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	227565
<b>Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	151710
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	14053
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	7747
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	8471
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	3046
<b>Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.</b>	
PCAS is the only municipal animal control shelter and the information reflected for admissions is the information from this shelter. Several private shelters exist but their intake figures are not reported.	
<b>Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:</b>	
Unaltered cats that are allowed to roam free are the greatest source of the cats taken into our shelter. Some of these cats are unsocialized and have no owner (feral) and some are owned cats that are free roaming. Unaltered stray dogs are the greatest source of dog overpopulation in the county.	
<b>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?</b>	
Besides PCAS, several relatively low cost spay/neuter clinics are available within the county. They are insufficient to meet the community needs for two reasons: 1. Many of the low income citizens who would desire to have their animal altered have limited transportation and 2. The cost of spay/neuter surgery is often still out of reach for this low income group.	
<b>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:</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Pets in low-income families</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Especially difficult or unique animal overpopulation sources</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pit bull dogs</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Feral cats</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Special spay/neuter event</b>	

## Objectives

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

We hope to be able to deploy the Animobile to low income areas 3 times per month for free spay/neuter of pet dogs and cats of low income residents, plus low-cost spay/neuter of cats from other citizens as space is available. It is our belief, and our impound statistics back it up, that cats present our primary pet overpopulation problem. Our goal is to sterilize 20 dogs and cats each day the we are on the road - a total of 720 animals. The cost for operating the Animobile is estimated to be \$880 per day on the road. The funding would give us 22 days to deploy, but since we would also be deriving income from low-cost surgeries and the sale of rabies shots and licenses, we would be able to deploy an additional 14 days during the year. The cost of the low cost surgeries would be: cat neuter (\$20); cat spay (\$30); dog neuter (\$30); dog spay (\$35). By leveraging the funding we would be getting the 720 surgeries for about \$28 each.

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

In calendar year 2008 we were able to perform approximately 400 surgeries on the Animobile. This would be a 77% increase over the number of surgeries we were able to perform on the Animobile in 2008. Without a grant, we will not be able to deploy the Animobile in FY10. We would quickly lose the advances that we have made over the past 5 years in reducing the numbers of strays that we deal with. It is our hope that in FY11 we would be able to again operate the Animobile with the combination of fees and county funding.

## Methods

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

The County issues cards for those residents that qualify for assistance in the areas of WIC, MEDICAID, Food Stamps and Public Housing. Those who receive the assistance would qualify for the free surgery program. The low cost cat spay/neuter program would be available to any other county resident on a space available basis.

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

We advertise on our website, primarily. However, we also receive some free advertising with television and print media. We also have brochures and fliers that we hand out and that we place at the locations where we set up. Three of the locations are at County Health Department clinics used by our target audience. The fourth area that we service is located at a community center in a neighborhood containing our target population. Since we have been doing this for several years, the word has gotten out and the people are aware.

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

We set up in the areas where the people live. We provide assistance filling out paperwork when faced with a person who has difficulty reading and understanding. We also have some bi-lingual material. For the cultural hurdles we rely on our education abilities.

### **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.**

There is no transportation of animals required other than by the owner. The animals are brought to the Animobile and placed in cages, the surgery performed on board, and the animals are reclaimed by the owners at the end of the day. Personnel involved in the process include a veterinarian, a certified veterinary technician, and either an Animal Control Officer or an animal care assistant. All are fully trained in animal care and handling. The owners are required to complete surgery release forms. All animals that do not have a current rabies vaccination will get one either free (low income) or for a reduced fee (all others).

# Veterinary Services

## Objectives

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

One of the 2 veterinarians employed by Pinellas County Animal Services will perform the surgeries.

## Veterinary Practices

### 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	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Range for Female Cats	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$30.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$28.00	\$28.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$28.00	\$28.00

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?	
<b>Examination</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Rabbies Vaccination if Due</b>	<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="\$1.00"/>
<b>Other Vaccination if Due</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Pain Medication</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Parasite Medication</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Testing</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Licensing</b>	<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"/>
<b>Ear tipping</b>	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Other</b>	<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:

Citizens receiving public assistance would not be charged fees for surgery or rabies vaccination and licensing if not current. Those citizens not receiving public assistance would be required to pay the fees indicated above for surgeries and rabies vaccination and licensing if not current.

\*\*The estimated cost per surgery for all animals is \$28.

**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.**

Funds received from fees would allow the program to operate an additional 14 days above what could be done with the grant alone.

## Budget

**Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:**

**Cats:** 504   **Dogs:** 216

**Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000):** \$20,000.00

**Average cost/surgery projected:** \$28.00

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

Without the fees collected for non low-income surgeries and rabies vaccination and licensing, the Animobile could only be deployed 22 days. The additional funds will permit the additional deployment of the vehicle.

## 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:** 07/31/10

## 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.**

Since the Animobile is paid for and available, we will include its deployment in our FY11 budget.

## 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 will include the grant support funding on our website, on fliers and, if possible, prominently displayed on our mobile unit (this will require assistance from other county departments).