

Grant ID: 186

Title of Proposal: Levy County Low-Cost Spay-Neuter Program
Agency Type: Non-Profit
Total Funding Requested: \$20,000.00
Check Payable To: Humane Society of Levy County, Inc.

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Humane Society of Levy County, Inc. **Website Address:** www.humanesocietyoflevycounty.com
Person Submitting Proposal: Heidi Hansen **Position:** Vice-President
Organization Business Address: PO Box 678 **City:** Bronson
State: FL **Zip:** 32621
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 352-486-5705 **Fax:** 352-485-5163
Cell: 352-317-0279 **Email Address:** levyhumane@aol.com

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/01/09 **End:** 12/31/09
Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$51,253.66
Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$70,606.90
Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 0 Part Time: 0
Number of Active Volunteers: 10
Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 120.00
How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Recipients in 2007.
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
Becky Gill	Director of Fundraising	352-490-6289	Owner of Curves, Chiefland	beckylgill@bellsouth.net
Connie Asbell	Secretary	352-221-0395	Levy County Supervisor of Elections	conne@votelevy.com
Dee Esler	Director of Veterinary Services	352-215-1930	Veterinarian	whatnext10@aol.com
Heidi Hansen	Vice-President	352-210-1720	Accountant	hlhansen@bellsouth.net
Mary Flickinger	Director of Fosters and Adoptions	352-472-1338	Retired	mflickinger3@wmconnect.com
Michelle Hagan	President	352-317-0219	Deputy Supervisor of Elections	chele2654@hotmail.com
Mike Schenk	Treasurer	352-317-3409	Levy County Asst. Animal Control Director	mike5138@aol.com

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

1218 **cats** and 1512 **dogs** were admitted.

364 **cats** and 1050 **dogs** were adopted.

463 cats and 850 dogs were euthanized.

364 cats and 1050 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

For five years, the Society is slowly molding and transforming rural Levy County into a pet friendly and responsible community through adoptions and community educational programs. In addition, the Society transports rescues to higher populated areas, which reduces the euthansia rate. We also help vaccinate, treat, and heart worm test animals at the Levy County shelter which provides a successful adoption rate.

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 ou this program.

In the FY of 2009, the Society was able to receive a generous donation of a Mini Van. This van travels around the state of Florida delivering adoptable pets to higher populated areas where these animals are adopted. During this time, the Society transported 337 cats and 793 dogs. The Society has a well rounded group of volunteer board members. All of the members contribute over 75 years of experience in animal rescue. With this experience, the Society has a diverse board with members trained in Veterinary Care, financial information, and customer service.

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?

In 2007, the Society was honored to receive funds from the Animal Friend Grant. By receiving and advertising information concerning this grant, additional rescues were able to receive funding in the area to help continue our efforts started in 2007. The funding from this grant will continue these efforts for low-income individuals in rural Levy County and help continue to reduce overpopulation of unwanted animals.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Levy County
Total human population in target area:	39,147
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):	11863
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	9787
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	6525
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1218
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1512
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	850
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	463
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. Due to large State and Federal recreational areas adjacent to residential areas, the Levy County feral cat population increases the above figures. This problem is most prevalent on the western side of the county in residential areas like Fanning Springs, Clay Landing, Camp Azalea, and Cedar Key where the feral cat colonies are impacting the natural wildlife.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: Levy County is a rural, low poverty area where the cat and dog overpopulation are prevalent due to residents housing animals and unable to provide proper medical and spay neuter services due to economic conditions.	
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? Levy County currently has several private veterinary practices that are unable to provide services for lower income families. Sheltering Hands, Inc. will have completed their grant funding which has been serving Levy County for spay neuter services.	
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input type="checkbox"/> Especially difficult or unique animal overpopulation sources <input type="checkbox"/> Pit bull dogs <input checked="" 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)?

The grant would permit an affordable spay/neuter option for low-income families and continue the decline of the feral cat population. The program will sterilize 253 cats and 144 dogs by July 2011.

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

The grant will continue the spay neuter program and raise the number of sterilization in rural Levy County.

Methods

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

The criteria to determine eligibility for a spay/neuter voucher would be based upon the family income level, the presence of non-sterilized pets in the home, and the willingness of the family to work with restrictions of the program and the veterinary

community. The Society will utilize the following: Medicaid, WIC, SSI, Food Stamps

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

The Society has a great working relationship with the area newspapers and will run press releases throughout the county. The best advertisement is through word-of-mouth, which in a rural low-income community word will spread fast, limiting vouchers to one per family. If awarded the full amount requested, the Society will have the opportunity to spay/neuter 397 animals to continue our goal of alleviating the pet overpopulation that we currently have in our rural low-income community.

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

Having individuals in the organization who face these hurdles in their daily jobs, this provides the Society a head start on solving common issues. The Society has a strong network of individuals that has been established to help with the transportation of animals. Bilingual Society members and individuals in County government stand ready to assist with communication needs.

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 Levy County Board of County Commissioners donated an ADA equipped van to the Society for the transport of owners and animals in crates provided by the Society to spay/neuter sites. Animals will be transported in the custody of their owners. Society members are experienced in the care and handling of these animals.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

The Society plans to partner with the Chiefland Animal Hospital to perform the surgeries on client based spay/neuter programs and feral cat sterilizations. When the Chiefland Animal Hospital is booked with regular clients from their area, the Society will utilize local veterinarians and No More Homeless Pets "Big Rig" for the voucher program; in addition, the Society will trap and transport feral cats to their clinic for sterilization.

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Archer Animal Hospital	16105 SOUTHWEST ARCHER ROAD	Archer	FL	32618	352-495-2910	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chiefland Animal Hospital	12474 NW Highway 19	Chiefland	FL	32626	352-493-2000	<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	\$5.00	\$35.00	\$40.00
Range for Female Cats	\$5.00	\$45.00	\$50.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$5.00	\$55.00	\$60.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$5.00	\$65.00	\$70.00

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 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	<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 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:

The Florida Animal Friend grant funds would cover an examination, pain medication, and the spay/neuter procedure. The Society would charge the Client \$5.00 per animal for Spay/Neuter services and rabies. The client would pay additional services such as flea treatment, and vaccines. Levy County does not require licensing. The Florida Animal Friend Grant will cover all charges for spay/neuter services of feral cat colonies. Additional services such as flea treatment, vaccines, ear tipping, and nail trimming will be covered by the Society.

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

Yes, Applicants will be pre-screened and qualified by the Levy County Family Services or other county welfare departments.

Other Information

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

Please see UPLOADED FILES of Program Details, Sample Voucher and Fee Reimbursement Schedule that will be provided to qualified applicants.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 253 **Dogs:** 144

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$51.00

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

The expenses outside the spay/neuter procedures incurred; for example, the client, which varies by veterinarian, will pay for ear cleaning, rabies, and vaccinations. PLEASE SEE UPLOADED FILES for Program Budget The expenses from the feral cat spay/neuter procedures incurred, for example, ear cleaning, rabies and vaccinations will be absorbed by the Society through donations from fundraising and community supporters.

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: 08/01/10/ **Projected end date:** 07/31/11

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 long-range plan for this program is to expand the scope to include low-cost sterilizations to all residents of Levy County to stop pet overpopulation and overcrowding at the Levy County Animal Services shelter. To do this, a permanent facility owned by the Humane Society of Levy County, Inc. is planned in the future. Other grants will be sought as well as soliciting financial support from local businesses and individuals who are sympathetic to the pets and homeless animals of Levy County. Several sponsors have

already pledged or matched financial support for the planned facility to make this goal a reality for the residents of rural low-income Levy County.

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.

The Society will utilize their advertising/marketing plan which can be found in the UPLOADED FILES section.