

Grant ID: 136

Title of Proposal: Pups & Kits Snip
Agency Type: Non-Profit
Total Funding Requested: \$15,000.00
Check Payable To: North Florida PAWS, Inc.

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: North Florida PAWS, Inc.	Website Address: www.northfloridapaws.org
Person Submitting Proposal: Katie Rooney	Position: Executive Director/President
Organization Business Address: P.O. Box 9	City: Jennings
State: FL	Zip: 32053-0009
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 386-938-4092	Fax: 386-938-4092
Cell: 386-719-0181	Email Address: northfloridapaws@windstream.net

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/01/09 **End:** 12/31/09

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$214,533.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$212,906.00

Number of Paid Employees: Full Time: 2 Part Time: 1

Number of Active Volunteers: 9

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 114.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? Originally from Dr. Julie Levy and FACA (we are members).

Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable): 2006 and 2008

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
Doug Rooney	Vice President	386-938-5816	R.N.	dougrooney@windstream.net
Katie Rooney	President/Treasurer	386-938-4092	Retired	northfloridapaws@windstream.net
Scott Rooney	Board Member	727-324-9125	Security Guard	scottrooney359@yahoo.com

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

2 cats and 8 dogs were admitted.

2 cats and 2 dogs were adopted.

0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

2 cats and 8 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

Primary program is a Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic providing affordable surgery targeting low-income pet owners who could not otherwise access spay/neuter services. PAWS also operates a small, limited-admission shelter, finding homes for adoptables or providing a safe home for unadoptables. PAWS volunteers promote humane education, particularly to children, through presentations in schools and for community organizations such as 4-H and Scouts.

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.

North Florida PAWS was incorporated February 14, 2000, to support animal shelters and rescues in the Suwannee Valley, a seven-county, rural area in North Central Florida. In 2005, the board decided to concentrate resources to establish a Low-cost Spay/Neuter Clinic to serve this 7-county area. PREVENTION became our mantra. Since opening the doors 28 months ago (Dec. 2007), we have performed over 5,400 spays/neuters. Our veterinary team consists of: 1) Dr. Tracie A. Daniels, a full-time veterinarian/surgeon, FL License # VM8072, who received her DVM at the University of Florida in 1999 and has 11 years of professional experience. 2) Nelly Quijada, a veterinary technician with over 20 years of experience as a veterinarian in Venezuela and technician since becoming a U.S. resident. She has worked at PAWS since it opened. 3) Doug Rooney, VP of PAWS, a full-time volunteer veterinary technician who has over 35 years experience as a surgical and emergency room Registered Nurse and over 2 years assisting PAWS' veterinarians in spay/neuter surgery. As PAWS' representative with FACA, he has successfully completed the 40-hour animal control course and is certified in Euthanasia and Chemical Capture. Katie Rooney, President/Treasurer, is in charge of all administrative aspects of running the clinic. Experience includes 23 years as a Human Resources Manager with Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers and 11 years as Director of North Florida PAWS.

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?

Currently the spay/neuter clinic is funded through client co-payments at very low rates, optional low-cost preventive care services, retail sales of pet-related items, dog obedience training, and donations. We perform an average of 3,000 surgeries per year or 17 per clinic day. By targeting a significant portion of the population below the poverty line who are on government assistance and cannot afford even our low rates, we can increase the average number of surgeries by at least 3 per day and help this unserved group.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Baker, Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Union counties
Total human population in target area:	191,455
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	22.2%
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	58017
Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	47864
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	31910
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	6,000 est
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	6,000 est
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	5,000 est
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	5,000 est
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.	
The actual number of residents is much higher than the 2008 census estimate due to a large number of undocumented workers, many of whom have pets. The number of dogs and cats is much higher due to the lack of animal control, low education level of many pet owners, and the culture of this very rural area.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:	
The vast majority of dogs and cats come from the indigenous population whose farming culture permits dogs and cats to run loose and procreate at will. The majority of undocumented workers and their families come from similar backgrounds. Their severe economic disadvantages, made worse by the current recession, make it impossible for them to utilize the for-profit veterinary clinics.	
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?	
Except for North Florida PAWS, the closest low-cost clinics open to our population are in Jacksonville and Tallahassee, up to 100 miles away.	
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 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)?

Sterilize an additional 500 female puppies and kittens between the ages of 2 and 6 months of age. The purpose is to prevent them from having even one litter. 90 to 95% of the dogs and cats coming to our Clinic are outside or otherwise susceptible to being impregnated. There are also quite a few owners who have or have rescued pregnant cats and dogs and want to sterilize the puppies and kittens before giving them away. At an average litter of six, spaying 500 puppies and kittens will immediately prevent approximately 3,000 more being born, not to mention future litters and their progeny that would survive.

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

By making surgery affordable for pet owners near or below the poverty level who cannot afford even our low charges, we can increase our annual surgeries by 500 female puppies and kittens which would not otherwise be sterilized. We can easily increase our daily average from 17 to 20 or more with current staff and equipment.

Methods

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

Pet owners would have to show written proof they currently receive government benefits based on poverty level criteria: Food Stamps (SNAP), Medicaid for Low Income Families, or SSI.

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

English and Spanish versions of Flyer posted in locations frequented by low-income families such as DCF, health department, libraries, schools, etc.; ads and PSAs in local newspapers and on radio stations; prominent posting on our website; and referrals from local animal shelters, rescues, and veterinarians who already recommend our clinic to adopters and others inquiring about spay/neuter.

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

PAWS currently offers monthly transports from two locations in Columbia County which serves a very large area. Our van picks up from Lake City Animal Shelter and a feed store in Fort White. Many residents are Spanish-speaking and we are fortunate that our Vet Tech Nelly Quijada can interpret for us. She also translates our flyers, PSAs, and other material and "spreads the word" in the Hispanic community.

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.

Katie and Doug Rooney, officers of North Florida PAWS, drive their E350 Heavy Duty Ford Diesel Van to the pick-up sites in Lake City and Fort White. We provide crates for the dogs but cats are required to be in individual cat carriers. The Rooneys and PAWS both carry liability insurance. We're able to transport over 20 animals and this system has been very successful for two years.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

PAWS has a full-time veterinarian on staff to perform all the surgeries.

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
North Florida PAWS, Inc.	PO Box 9	Jennings	FL	32053-0009	386-938-4092	<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="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>

Range for Female Cats	\$15.00	\$30.00	\$45.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$29.00	\$30.00	\$59.00

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 \$8.00
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 \$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 type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$10.00
Testing <input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$8.00
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 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 checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes \$8.00

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

EAR TIPPING is only available for feral cats at no charge. OTHER VACCINATIONS available FVRCP \$10 and DHLPP \$15. TESTING Fecal Float \$8, Heartworm Antigen \$15, FeLV/FIV \$25. OTHER services include \$10 General Dewormer, \$8-16 Tapeworm Dewormer, \$8 Bordetella, \$15 Microchip, \$10 simple Hernia Repair, \$5 Ear Mite Treatment, \$11 Comfortis Flea Tablet or Vectra for cats; \$15-35 6-pack Heartworm Preventive.

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.

We work closely with Lake City Humane Society (LCHS) by providing 2-4 transports per month to bring their adoptable animals as well as those of the public to our clinic for spay/neuter. As a public service, the LCHS takes care of scheduling and the paperwork for pet owners in the community. We fully support LCHS's proposal to spay female dogs and cats which have had unwanted litters that their owners want to turn into the shelter. Often these are repeat litters from the same female, but the owner claims he/she cannot afford to have her fixed. The plan is for LCHS to subsidize the mothers' spays thus preventing them from having more babies or being relinquished to the shelter. PAWS will help LCHS spay/neuter the kittens and puppies from these litters which are turned into the shelter. With this grant, PAWS can also subsidize the spay/neuters of any kept by the owners. By doing this we can break the cycle of future breeding of the mothers and her offspring.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 300 Dogs: 200

Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000): \$15,000.00

Average cost/surgery projected: \$30.00

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

Advertising, printing, and any miscellaneous expenses will be covered under routine overhead and management expenses.

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: 08/15/10/ **Projected end date:** 08/15/10

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 expect this project to be very successful. With a track record, we plan to have targeted fund-raising activities and media campaigns. In addition, PAWS should be able to absorb a portion of the cost for each surgery when the economy recovers and targeted donatons increase.

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 included a statement, logo, and hyperlink for FAF on our website's Home Page starting in 2006. We display the posters in prominent locations in our lobby, keep the handouts on our display table, and have Spay/Neuter License Plates on all vehicles used for PAWS activities. All documents and promotions for this program will have a prominent reference to FAF Spay/Neuter License Plate. We will continue to promote this worthy program whether or not we are current recipients.