

Grant ID: 159

Title of Proposal: Operation PitNip
Agency Type: Non-Profit
Total Funding Requested: \$20,000.00
Check Payable To: Phoenix Animal Rescue

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Phoenix Animal Rescue	Website Address: phoenixanimalrescue.org
Person Submitting Proposal: Deborah Cottrell	Position: veterinary advisor
Organization Business Address: 11820 SW 122nd St	City: Gainesville
State: FL	Zip: 32608
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 352-226-0228	Fax: 352-472-5471
Cell: 352-870-1136	Email Address: doctorcottrell@gmail.com

Agency Details

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

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$20,204.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$20,429.00

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

Number of Active Volunteers: 15

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 600.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? I have received grant money from you previously.

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
Amy Tate	Secretary	352-317-8020	Self-Employed	admin@phoenixanimalrescue.org
Michelle Dunlap	Director, President	352-226-0228	Dog Trainer	phoenixanimalrescue@yahoo.com
Mitzi Korb	Vice-President	352-332-2097	Self-Employed	admin@phoenixanimalrescue.org
Pam Dunlap	Treasurer	352-495-3028	Retired	admin@phoenixanimalrescue.org

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

0 cats and 110 dogs were admitted.

0 cats and 105 dogs were adopted.

0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

0 cats and 106 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

Phoenix Animal Rescue takes in abused and neglected dogs and puppies, provides medical and/or behavioral rehabilitation, and seeks adoptive homes for each dog and puppy. Most of our dogs and puppies are pit bulls or pit bull mixes. All dogs and puppies adopted out must pass a behavioral test that assesses the dog's compatibility with children, adults, dogs, cats, and other animals. A home visit is conducted with each adoption to assist the adopter in acclimating their new dog to their family.

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.

Phoenix Animal Rescue takes in many Bully breed dogs that other rescues will not, due to the fact that bully breeds are more difficult to place. I originated Operation PitNip here in Alachua County in November of 2005, and have spayed/neutered approximately 1300 dogs. Last year, I severed connections with Helping Hands Rescue and began working with Phoenix due to our mutual interest in reducing the number of Bully breed dogs being euthanized at our Animal Control facility.

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?

All Phoenix Animal Rescue dogs are spayed or neutered by me (Dr. Cottrell and West End Animal Hospital) at a cost of \$55.00 to the Rescue. Operation PitNip provides FREE surgeries to Pit Bull and Pit Bull mixes who are already owned. It was originally funded solely by West End Animal Hospital. In 2006, 2007 and 2008 it was funded by a joint effort from Florida Animal Friends, PetSmart, and West End Animal Hospital. In 2009, it was again funded solely by WEAH. WEAH will have great difficulty continuing this program without any further financial support. Phoenix Animal Rescue is anxious to continue this program in Alachua County and will provide transport for owners who are unable to drive. We have found in past years that this is a significant barrier to penetrating our target market of the poor areas of Alachua County.

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Alachua County, FL
Total human population in target area:	241,364
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	22
Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):	73141

Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):	60341
Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):	40228
Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	unknown
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	4375
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	unknown
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1374
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above. Admission and euthanasia rates are much higher for Pit Bulls than other breeds, so our target population is skewed as a higher percentage of these numbers.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area: The most substantial source of cat overpopulation is feral cats. We attempt to address that problem with Operation Catnip. The most substantial source of dog overpopulation is either purposeful or neglectful overbreeding, particularly of certain breeds. In my experience, the poorer a geographical area, the greater the numbers of Pit Bulls and Pit mixes.	
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? The Alachua County Humane Society Gallenkamp Voucher program provides surgeries at lower cost than normal, but the vouchers still cost pet owners \$60.00 for dogs. Alachua County Humane Society provides a mobile surgery clinic which also costs \$60.00, but will only spay dogs who weigh less than 40 lbs. It has been my experience in many years of veterinary medicine that providing free surgeries will make a much greater impact than low-cost 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 type="checkbox"/> Pets in low-income families <input type="checkbox"/> Especially difficult or unique animal overpopulation sources <input checked="" 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)?

We hope to help continue the reduction of Pit Bulls being surrendered to Alachua County Animal Services. The total number of Pit Bulls admitted to the shelter was 847. This represents about 20% of the total dog intake and must be reduced.

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

Most of the dogs sterilized under Operation PitNip would not have been sterilized if there had been a charge to the owner. These owners are either too poor or simply won't spend the money to do it, but they will do it if the surgery is free. This does not speak well of the owners, but at least the dogs don't suffer as much.

Methods

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

Photos of dogs are provided by the owners or taken at WEAH at the time of surgery to ascertain breed qualifications.

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

We already have extensive awareness, because ACAS and other animal welfare groups refer owners to us. PAR and WEAH also intend to personally establish liaisons in local community churches to spread awareness of the animal overpopulation problem. We feel churches in poor areas are a good place to reach large segments of the target population.

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

PAR has volunteers who can provide transportation to WEAH. We believe by being allowed to speak to church congregations, we can reach those whose literacy and cultural differences are more pronounced than if we put out flyers and brochures. WEAH has advertising contracts with local TV stations and is willing to devote a percentage of advertising budget to targeted networks such as Speed, Outdoor and BET.

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.

PAR volunteers are experienced in transporting dogs from foster homes to PetSmart adoptions every weekend. Minivans and SUV's containing dog crates are the most common form of transport. PAR has an umbrella liability insurance policy which covers transport and all handling activities.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

I am the veterinarian who will be performing 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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

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

Examination Required Optional Not Available

Rabbies Vaccination if Due Required Optional Not Available

Fee to Client?

No Yes \$44.25

No Yes \$17.00

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	\$22.00
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	\$15.00
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	\$25.00
Testing	<input type="radio"/> Required	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	\$39.49
Licensing	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Required	<input type="radio"/> Optional	<input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	\$15.00
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 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 only requirement is that the dog is vaccinated against rabies and registered in Alachua County. If the vaccination and registration is current, owner needs to bring proof. If not current, it may be obtained at the time of surgery. All other services are optional and will be charged at the normal price.

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

No vouchers. We try to keep it as simple as possible, both for the owners and for us. Many of our target owners do not have reliable transportation, and obtaining a voucher requires an additional trip, requiring additional time and effort for both PAR and the owner.

Other Information

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

This program has been in operation since Nov 2005, and is quite streamlined. We make it as simple as possible to get owners to neuter their dogs.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 0 Dogs: 400

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

Average cost/surgery projected: \$50.00

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

Advertising will be paid for by WEAH; other ancillary expenses for transport will be furnished by PAR.

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:** 08/01/11

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.

WEAH is prepared to assist in funding in the future again if necessary. We feel this is an ongoing task and will not have a quick solution, and we are determined in our purpose to reduce the number of Pit Bulls admitted to the shelter. PAR raises funds from dog washes and bake sales. One primary source of funding is our annual Pit Bull Awareness Day. This event takes place at WEAH, and draws hundreds of people to watch dogs compete in weight pull events, as well as purchasing items for sale. PAR has recently been granted 501(c)3 non-profit status, so can now hold adoptathons at PetSmart, which has increased public donations significantly. There are also plans to hold Poker For Pets Texam Hold'Em Tournaments. These have raised several thousand dollars for rescues in the past.

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.

A poster and brochures are displayed in the lobby area of WEAH and the logo and link to the license plate is on the home page of the WEAH website. If this grant receives funding, PAR will also display the logo and link on its home page. Any advertising will contain the phrase "made possible by funding from Florida Animal Friends License Plate sales."