

Grant ID: 210

Title of Proposal: SNAP: Spay/Neuter Alachua's Pets
Agency Type: Non-Profit
Total Funding Requested: \$25,000.00
Check Payable To: Gainesville Pet Rescue, Inc.

Application Information

Demographics

Name of Applicant Agency: Gainesville Pet Rescue, Inc.	Website Address: www.gainesvillepetrescue.org
Person Submitting Proposal: Heather Thomas	Position: Executive Director
Organization Business Address: 5403 SW Archer Road	City: Gainesville
State: Florida	Zip: 32608
Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx): 352-692-4773	Fax: 352-692-4776
Cell:	Email Address: gvillepetrescue@aol.com

Agency Details

Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin: 01/01/10 **End:** 12/31/10

Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year: \$241,803.00

Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year: \$268,134.00

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

Number of Active Volunteers: 75

Total Volunteer Hours per Week: 400.00

How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition? FAF website

Year(s) of previous Florida Animal Friend grants (if applicable): n/a

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
Angela Foote	President	352-332-9285	Volunteer, community advocate	footeangela@hotmail.com
Dielle Fernandes	Board member	352-371-1896	Pharmacist	diellefernandes@yahoo.com
Fred Ross	Board member	352-371-1896	retired geologist	bross21@cox.net
Leslie Ladendorf	Vice President	352-871-6610	Museum development officer	lesliedigs@gmail.com
Molly Lovorn	Board member	662-419-7244	Assistant Store Manager	molly.lovorn@yahoo.com
Naima Cortes	Treasurer	813-610-4780	Project manager	naima@capt.org

Applicant Qualifications

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

310 cats and 279 dogs were admitted.

300 cats and 288 dogs were adopted.

0 cats and 0 dogs were euthanized.

295 cats and 265 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

Gainesville Pet Rescue, Inc. (GPR) is Alachua County's only foster-only adoption program. More than 80% of our pets are rescued from Alachua County Animal Services. All pets who enter the GPR program are guaranteed a home regardless of the length of time it takes for them to be adopted. Since its inception in 1993, thousands of animals have been sterilized and placed into loving, permanent homes. GPR promotes spay/neuter of all pets through community education and outreach.

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?

n/a

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

ALL pets in the GPR system are sterilized before adoption.

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

n/a

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.

Gainesville Pet Rescue's SNAP project is directly aligned with Florida Animal Friend, Inc.'s mission of saving lives by supporting free and low-cost spay/neuter services. SNAP will leverage our high visibility in Alachua County to connect low-income and spay/neuter resistant pet owners with free, high-quality pet sterilization services to close the gap between available resources and community need. Our board and staff are leaders in our community's initiative to end the euthanasia of adoptable pets through adoption, spay/neuter and education. Our Executive Director, Heather Thomas, will serve as the SNAP Project Director, ensuring that GPR complies with all performance and reporting requirements. Heather holds a Master's degree in Agribusiness and a B.S. in Animal Science from the University of Florida and is an experienced veterinary technician. Heather has extensive project management experience that will help GPR efficiently and effectively implement the SNAP project. Our spay/neuter surgery provider, Operation PetSnip, employs a highly-trained veterinary surgeon, Dr. Randy Caligiuri, who has dedicated his professional career to the plight of shelter animals, including stints as Alachua County Animal Services Director, lead vet for the Marion County Neuter Commuter mobile clinic program, and Animal Services shelter veterinarian. All of Operation PetSnip's clinic team are Humane Alliance-trained to provide high-volume, high-quality spay/neuter services.

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?

GPR's current sterilization program is targeted at the animals in our foster care/adoption program that are rescued from Alachua County Animal Services or taken in from the public. Approximately 95% of these animals are unsterilized when they come into our program, and providing spay/neuter surgeries for these animals (600-800 per year) consumes the largest portion of our budget

after staff costs. In order show a significant increase in spay/neuter surgeries that will lower euthanasia rates in our community, we need to provide outreach and resources to the low-income and spay/neuter-resistant members of our community who may not be able to afford available low-cost services, or who may not be persuaded to sterilize their pet unless the service is provided free of charge

Target Population

Geographical target area (name of city, county, etc.):	Alachua County, FL and surrounding rural counties
Total human population in target area:	241,364
Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:	23% (significantly higher than the State of Florida (12%) and the US as a whole (13.3%))
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)	3,187
Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	3,272
Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1,759
Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)	1,172
Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.	
As a Maddie's Adoption Project community for the past 8 1/2 years, Alachua County partners have invested significant resources in data tracking, analysis, reporting and accountability. We believe that the figures shown above are an extremely accurate reflection of our target area animal population.	
Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:	
Our research indicates that the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in Alachua County are free-roaming cats, 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?	
Private practice veterinarians in Alachua County charge market rates for sterilization surgery (ranging from \$120 up to several hundred dollars per pet) and are available to serve middle-to-high-income, motivated pet owners. Alachua County Humane Society's Gallenkamp voucher-based program provides \$40 cat and \$60 dog vouchers that pet owners can use at participating private veterinary clinics. NMHP's Operation PetSnip program offers \$40 cat and \$60 dog sterilization. While each of these resources is an important piece in our county's plan to eliminate pet overpopulation, there is a significant service gap for very low-income pet owners and for those who are resistant to the idea of pet sterilization. For the neediest of our county's residents, even \$40 or \$60 is an unmanageable cost, while free surgery may be the only practical incentive for pet owners who are resistant to spay/neuter education.	
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pit bull dogs <input type="checkbox"/> Feral cats <input type="checkbox"/> Special spay/neuter event <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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Objectives

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

Our objective for the requested funds is to provide free sterilization surgery for 250 cats and 250 dogs belonging to very low-income residents and to spay/neuter resistant residents by August 31, 2012.

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

Our objective for the requested funds will increase spay/neuter surgeries by a minimum of 500 surgeries above 2010 levels for Alachua County. It will directly address pet owners who would not otherwise have their pets sterilized due to severe economic need or educational/cultural attitudes.

Methods

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

1. Low Income: We will target residents of Alachua County and the surrounding communities whose household income is at or below 150% of the 2011 federal poverty level. For example, a family of four earning \$33,525 or less would be eligible for free spay/neuter assistance under these guidelines. For documentation of eligibility we will accept current Medicaid, Food Stamp or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) cards or a 2010 federal income tax return. Documentation of participation in other low-income programs such as Head Start or Community Action Programming will also qualify. 2: Resistant Populations: We will also conduct special outreach for pet owners that are determined to be culturally resistant to pet sterilization. Outreach staff will work with Alachua County Animal Control to identify neighborhoods or individuals with high rates of impounds or known pet overpopulation issues. Selection factors will be documented in written notes for each recipient under the Resistant Populations criteria.

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

GPR receives daily requests for free spay/neuter services from pet owners bringing in litters to relinquish and from routine phone/walk-in traffic. We anticipate that these requests will increase once we announce the availability of free surgeries through the SNAP project. We will also advertise our program through community flyers, tabling, and outreach to organizations serving our target population. Since churches are the heart of social networks in our rural community, we plan a special outreach effort to enlist local pastors in getting the word out about the SNAP project in low-income communities.

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

1. Transportation: for program participants without transportation we will provide pick-up and return of pets and loan of secure pet carriers. 2. Illiteracy: Because our outreach model relies heavily on personal contact and referrals from community partners, we do not anticipate that illiteracy will be a significant barrier to full use of the program. 3. Cultural hurdles: We will work to ensure that our staff and outreach volunteers reflect the cultural diversity of our community. All written program materials will be available in both English and Spanish, and a translation volunteer will be available for Spanish-speaking pet owners.

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.

Pick-up and return of pets for participants without transportation will be provided by GPR employees who are vaccinated and covered by our organization's liability and workers compensation insurance policies. All GPR staff have been trained in safe animal handling. All pets will be transported in secure carriers or crates. Pet owners requesting transportation will sign a liability release form prior to pick-up of their pet.

Veterinary Services

Objectives

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

Our surgery partner for the SNAP project will be Gainesville's local Humane Alliance-model community spay/neuter clinic, Operation PetSnip operated by No More Homeless Pets, Inc. Operation PetSnip has signed a written agreement to provide SNAP Project surgeries at the rate of \$40 per cat and \$60 per dog, regardless of gender or size.

Veterinary Practices

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Operation PetSnip, No More Homeless Pets, Inc.	4205 NW 6th Street, Suite A-2	Gainesville	FL	32609	352-376-6647	<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	\$40.00	\$40.00
Range for Female Cats	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
Range for Male Dogs	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Range for Female Dogs	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00

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 \$10.00
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 \$15.00
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 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:

Distemper/Parvo and Kennel Cough vaccines are optional for dogs at \$10 each; Panleukopenia/URI and Feline Leukemia vaccines are optional for cats at \$10 each. Heartwork, FelV and FIV testing is optional for \$15. Dewormer is optional for \$10 and flea/earmite treatment is optional for \$15. All vaccines and optional services are available to an individual pet ONE TIME ONLY at the time of spay/neuter surgery. Pet owners are referred to local veterinary clinics for ongoing pet wellness and veterinary care.

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

This is a clinic-based program, 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.

Gainesville Pet Rescue will reach out to low-income and spay/neuter resistant pet owners to offer free pet sterilization through our partner clinic, Operation PetSnip. GPR and our community partners believe that targeting very low income and spay/neuter resistant

pet owners is the key to increasing pet sterilization above baseline numbers, as these are the pet owners least likely to ever sterilize their cats and dogs. By providing a special fund for free spay/neuter surgery and facilitating participation through outreach and other support, the SNAP project will directly address the most entrenched barriers in our community: poverty and cultural resistance. At an average cost of only \$50 per surgery, SNAP is an excellent investment of Florida Animal Friends funding with huge lifesaving potential.

Budget

Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:

Cats: 250 **Dogs:** 250

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:

Grant funds will be used specifically for the costs of spay/neuter surgery. Gainesville Pet Rescue will cover the costs of required rabies vaccines using locally-raised funds. Outreach will be conducted by our committed corps of volunteers, including students from the University of Florida. We will also solicit in-kind donations of printing advertising from community and corporate partners.

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: 08/01/11/ **Projected end date:** 07/31/12

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 are excited about the potential impact of the SNAP project on Alachua County Animal Control intake and euthanasia statistics, and we believe that our local community will share this excitement once they see the results of the first year of this project. We will leverage this community enthusiasm to create a permanent SNAP fund to which donors can make directed gifts. We will also use the statistical outcomes of the project's first year to demonstrate impact and effectiveness to make a case for a special SNAP endowment to major donors, and to support grant applications to funders including PetSmart Charities, ASPCA, private foundations and the Alachua County Community Support Services grant program.

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.

Gainesville Pet Rescue is grateful for the investment Florida Animal Friend, Inc. is making on behalf of our state's pets. We will acknowledge the Florida Animal Friend grant program on all press releases, newsletters, our website, all printed program materials and through speaking opportunities in our community. We will promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate through a permanent display in our adoption center, reminders in our newsletters and press releases, through links on our website and Facebook page, and during community speaking opportunities.