




THE SUNRISE CITY

**FORT PIERCE**  
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE *Florida*

**TO : The Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission**

**FROM : Nicholas C. Mimms, P.E., City Manager** 

**RE : Florida Animal Friend Grant Application – Status Update**

**DATE : March 31, 2017**

The application for the Florida Animal Friend Grant was submitted on-line yesterday, March 30, 2017. The City of Fort Pierce, as the applicant, completed the grant application in close collaboration with United for Animals. A copy the application is attached for your information.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

NCM:jdr

Attachment

c: City Clerk  
City Attorney

**From:** Peggy Arraiz/cfp  
**To:** Nicholas Mimms/cfp@cfp  
**Cc:** jrobinson@city-ftpierce.com, lcox@city-ftpierce.com

**Date:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 04:51PM  
**Subject:** Florida Animal Friend Grant

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The application has been submitted.



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**Thank you. The grant application has been submitted successfully.**

[Home](#)

**Margaret M. (Peggy) Arraiz | Code Compliance Manager | City of Fort Pierce**

Community Response Divisions  
Code Enforcement & Animal Control  
Phone: 772.467.3148 Fax: 772.468.0457 100 North U.S. 1 Fort Pierce, FL 34950

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Survey](#)



Grant ID: 1729

**Title of Proposal:** City of Fort Pierce Community Cat Program

**Agency Type:** Municipal

**Total Funding Requested:** \$22,000.00

**Check Payable To:** City of Fort Pierce

## Application Information

### Demographics

**Name of Applicant Agency:** City of Fort Pierce

**Website Address:** www.cityoffortpierce.com

**Person Submitting Proposal:** Margaret M Arraiz

**Position:** Code Compliance Manager

**Person Submitting Proposal Email Address:** parraiz@city-ftpierce.com

**Agency Head:** Nicholas Mimms

**Agency Head Email:** nmimms@city-ftpierce.com

**Organization Business Address:** 100 N US Hwy 1

**City:** Fort Pierce

**State:** FL

**Zip:** 34950

**Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx):** 772-467-3000

**Fax:**

**Cell:**

### Agency Details

**Date of 501(c)(3) Incorporation:**

**Dates of Last Fiscal Year: Begin:** 10/01/15 **End:** 09/30/16

**Organization Income in Last Fiscal Year:** \$25,894.00

**Organization Expenses in Last Fiscal Year:** \$358,000.00

**Number of Paid Employees:** Full Time: 3 Part Time: 0

**Number of Active Volunteers:** 15

**Total Volunteer Hours per Week:** 90.00

**How did you learn of the 2009 Florida Animal Friend grant competition?** prior recipient

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

**Previous Florida Animal Friend Applications:** Years Funded: 2011 Year(s) denied/incomplete: 2014

**Auto-Generated (Previous Applications):**

#### Describe your Organization:

##### Services Provided

- Open Admission Intake Shelter
- Limited Intake Shelter
- Foster Network
- Animal Control

##### Organization Structure:

- City, county, or tribal agency
- Private nonprofit agency
- TNR Group
- Rescue Group

Spay/Neuter Services

Other

Other

List your current board of directors:

Name	Title	Phone	Occupation
Jeremiah Johnson	Commissioner	772-467-3000	Commissioner
Linda Hudson	Mayor	772-467-3000	Mayor
Reggie Sessions	Commissioner	772-467-3000	Commissioner
Rufus Alexander	Commissioner	772-467-3000	Commissioner
Tom Perona	Commissioner	772-467-3000	Commissioner

**Applicant Qualifications**

For your organization, in the last complete fiscal year:

745 cats and 667 dogs were admitted.

0 cats and 0 dogs were adopted.

537 cats and 454 dogs were euthanized.

170 cats and 155 dogs were sterilized.

Briefly describe your animal programs:

- Stray/Lost pet intake
- Foster Program
- Wellness services to understand pet owners
- Volunteer Program
- Owner surrendered animals
- Food Bank
- Cruelty investigation
- High volume spay/neuter clinic
- Lost and Found Program
- Behavior counseling
- Enforcement of ordinances
- Full service wellness clinic
- Adoption Program
- Disaster services

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?

Please note that the '0' listed in adoptions is due to an unknown quantity. The City of Fort Pierce contracts with the Humane Society of St. Lucie County, which is an open admission shelter. Any animal impounded by the City and not euthanized is adopted by the Humane Society. The numbers provided for intake, euthanasia and adoptions are the combined numbers reflecting the overall picture.

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.

We currently are operating a spay/neuter voucher program within Ft. Pierce that requires an operating utility van equipped with cages to transport dogs and cats to participating veterinarians. Currently the City is funding the low income voucher program out of it's general fund; \$14,000 in voucher reimbursements to vets in the past fiscal year. The City also maintains the transport van providing repairs, fuel and insurance coverage. Although the program is primarily operated by volunteers, the City also provides a yearly grant of \$10,000 for United for Animals (U.F.A.) to help supplement the labor needed to sustain this large effort. A significant percentage of the time U.F.A. dedicates also goes to educational efforts within the community, re-homing pets as an alternative to impoundment, and anti-cruelty 'watch-dogging'. The City works with participating vets providing not only spay/neuter surgeries, but occasionally emergency procedures to save the lives of pets in physical crisis mode. These surgeries may be assisted by Animal Control in terms of transportation but emergency surgeries themselves are always funded with charitable donations. We are now in the process of eliminating the legislative barriers to TNR with an eye toward allowing cats to live out their lives in the most humane, caring manner our City and citizens can provide. The personnel involved will include a properly trained and certified Animal Control Department, a large group of Vets with their respective trained staff, a significant number of feral cat colony maintainers, a dedicated group of charities dedicated to compassionate care of pets including United for Animals, The St. Lucie County Humane Society, The Spay/Neuter Alliance of the Treasure Coast, etc. The

partnership between Ft. Pierce, U.F.A., the participating vet community and associated organizations has over the past eight years been responsible for a reduction of \$175,000 in fees paid to the local open admission shelter from Ft. Pierce. This savings in tax dollars is a direct result of the successful implementation of the programs explained in this application. Most of those responsible for this near decade long success story are dedicated to efficiently employing any grant dollars awarded.

**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?**

The City in 2016 allocated over \$14,000 from our general fund for reimbursement to veterinarians for surgeries performed under the spay/neuter voucher program intended to help low income pet owning citizens get sterilization services. The City also allocates nearly \$200,000 in salaries for its three Animal Control Officers, Animal Control Supervisor, transport vehicle expenses, and financial support to United for Animals for canvassing City neighborhoods and surgery transport needs. In addition, The Humane Society of St. Lucie County currently charges Ft. Pierce Government \$125,000 for the 1007 pets impounded within our City limits or delivered by Ft. Pierce residents during fiscal year 2015 to 2016. This charge is in addition to the large pet shelter our City donates to the Humane Society for the cost to the H.S.S.L.C. of \$1.00 per year. United for Animals receives significant charitable donations to help reduce expenses to the City but Ft. Pierce is a city of approximately 44,500 residents with a 36.6% poverty rate having a 2015 reported median household income of \$27,578.00. This presents significant barriers to programs such as the homeless pet endeavors previously operated and the newly planned city wide TNR initiative. As our existing efforts have provided extremely positive results in terms of less euthanasias and taxpayer waste, we expect an expanded pet spay/neuter voucher program and a TNR effort to realize further savings so as to allow funds to be available for other pressing community requirements. For instance, Ft. Pierce suffers from gang related violence which is extremely challenging to overcome given the level of funding our law enforcement bodies have available.

**Target Population**

<b>Geographical target area (name of city, county, zip codes, geographical information service (GIS), etc.):</b>	City of Ft. Pierce, Florida is in St Lucie County with zip codes 34945, 34946, 34947, 34949, 34950, 34981 and 34982. Ft. Pierce, Florida encompasses an area of 20.8 square miles.
<b>Total human population in target area:</b>	44,500
<b>Percent of residents living below poverty in target area:</b>	36.6
<b>Estimated number of pet cats in target area (human population divided by 3.3):</b>	13485
<b>Estimated number of pet dogs in target area (human population divided by 4.0):</b>	11125
<b>Estimated number of feral cats in target area (human population divided by 6.0):</b>	7417
<b>Number of cats admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	745
<b>Number of dogs admitted to animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	667
<b>Number of cats euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	537
<b>Number of dogs euthanized in animal control shelters in the target area last year (if known)</b>	454
<b>Please explain if you believe your target area animal population is significantly different than above.</b>	
N/A	
<b>Please explain what you believe are the most substantial sources of dog and cat overpopulation in the target area:</b>	
Citizens who are struggling financially and attempt to supplement their income by breeding and selling puppies are one source of homeless pets as these backyard breeders are rarely able to sell entire litters. There are tethered females that are impregnated by stray males. We have instituted an anti-tethering law to combat this often occurring circumstance and a Differential Pet License that provides a significant incentive to spay/neuter. Of course this Differential License is accompanied by the City's sterilization voucher program that allows financially challenged pet owners the opportunity to alter their pet free of charge rather than pay a significant unaltered pet license fee. These programs have not reduced the cat population locally as there are a large number of cats that breed in the wild. We believe TNR, as has been the case where ever properly implemented, will be a solution wherein the citizenry, knowing that captured cats will be sterilized and returned alive to their groups and colonies will participate in their capture. When citizens believe otherwise, the overwhelming tendency is to hide and feed cats that continue to indiscriminately reproduce.	

**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?**

While local veterinarians often offer discounted sterilization services for customers who visit their businesses, the city's voucher program is promoted within our lower income neighborhoods and focuses on reaching pet owners who cannot afford the discounted services offered by veterinarians and often do not have the transportation to bring their pets to and from the surgery. Additionally, there has not been a locally funded or supported TNR program to address feral and stray cats due to prior ordinance restrictions. With the adoption of the new ordinance that allows community cats, these animals can now be sterilized, vaccinated and returned.

**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:**

Pets in low-income families  Pit Bull / large breed dogs  TNR managed colonies of feral cats  Community cats (free-roaming and/or owned)  Other

**TNR Managed Colony Feral Cat Program/Community Cats (Free-Roaming and/or Owned) Program**

**Define the precise boundaries of the colony or targeted area, including estimate of square miles.**

The City of Fort Pierce encompasses an area of 20.8 square miles and the program will be city wide.

**What is the criteria used for determining the target area(s) and/or eligibility for this program?**

N/A

**Describe whether the targeted area is rural, suburban, or urban. Is it commercial, residential, agricultural, or a designated special land use?**

The City of Fort Pierce is predominantly suburban with a more rural area on the western edge of the city limits. There is a good mix of residential and commercial as well as aquatic and recreational uses throughout the city.

**Estimated number of cats in the target colony area :** 0

**Estimated number that are currently sterilized:** 0

**Projected reduction after utilizing the grant:** 0

**For TNR program, describe the ability to maintain lifelong care for remaining cats, commitment level of volunteers/organizations, etc.**

We intend to form a Community Cat Coalition of colony caretakers to help coordinate the assistance needed to maintain an effective, sustainable TNR initiative. Our community of Ft. Pierce community cat caretakers possesses among its residents a large amount of competent citizens that currently feed and care for community cat groups. This grant will assist them and all citizens with funds to provide sterilization surgeries so fewer cats will need to survive in a 'free roaming' environment.

**Do current city/county ordinances address TNR or free-roaming cats?**

Yes

**Please explain what is allowed:**

Our City has a scheduled hearing to repeal what is a 'cat leash law.' Via a series of three public Commission meetings, it has become clear that our entire five member Commission Board is in favor of a completely new direction as it relates to the issue of community free roaming cats. The meeting scheduled for April 3, 2017 is the first of two public hearings wherein a vote of a minimum of three of the five elected officials will change existing law. Again, this is expected to pass unanimously.

**(NOTE: FAF will not fund any program this is inconsistent with local ordinances.)**

**For TNR program, list any groups or government agencies who support this TNR effort:**

The City of Fort Pierce City Commission, Management and Staff; United for Animals; St. Lucie County Humane Society; The Spay/Neuter Alliance of the Treasure Coast; Operation Catsnip; Rescue Adoption Inc.

**Describe any effort to lessen the negative impact on local wildlife.**

As the City sees the benefits of a successful TNR program with a lower free roaming cat population, there will be a direct benefit with a reduced impact on wildlife. Additionally, sterilized cats reintroduced to their environment, as a rule, are more docile than non-sterilized cats and those returned to a colony will be fed by community cat caretakers, then reducing the cats' need to supplement their diet by hunting birds and other small animals.

**Describe efforts that will be made to mitigate current or potential nuisance issues.**

Within our newly written TNR ordinance is a section dealing with 'nuisance' free roaming cats. Cats that are the subject of a complaint will be impounded and the basis of the nuisance complaint noted on the impound sheet. The terms of the impoundment will allow for a five business day holding period at the open admission shelter, permitting 'cat coalition' members to intervene in an attempt to resolve issues. Per the new ordinance the cat may not be returned to the place where it was removed.

**Will the cats be ear-tipped?** Yes

**Will the cats be microchipped?** No

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

There is currently discussion as to the relative benefit of microchipping. Most believe that it is necessary in order to return roaming cats to the colony from which they came. However, there must be funding for this as well as for the other necessities. We believe we have donors that will provide this additional assistance but as of this moment, we must state that we are not certain.

## Objectives

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

We hope to reduce the financial burden on our City's general fund. Given our 36.6 poverty rate, the City having contributed approximately \$14,000.00 for 199 spay/neuter surgeries presented a significant challenge to our budget. While we strive to alter as many pets as possible, to subsidize this many again this year, given the other many expenses related to our progressive animal control efforts would be beyond current 'general fund' constraints. We are requesting \$7,000.00 to sterilize the next twelve months' first 100 dogs to help us relieve our budget in our attempt to spay/neuter every unaltered pet. We are now also planning to alter community cats by implementing an organized, efficient TNR City-Wide program. For this we will need cages to capture roaming cats, medicine, rabies inoculations, transportation services, organizational support, etc. For the actual surgery procedures themselves we are asking for \$15,000.00 to perform what we hope will be 300 surgeries in the first full year.

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

All surgeries performed through the TNR program will be above our current baseline of zero as it is the City's inaugural TNR program and we are very excited to be able to provide a measurable and quantitative number at the end of the program. As for the existing low income voucher program, last year the City funded 199 sterilization surgeries. With these additional funds we are hoping to increase that number by at least 10% or an addition 20 sterilizations. Between the two programs we are hopeful to make a dramatic impact on the number of free roaming cats as well as reduce the number of litters throughout our community that place a burden on the City's budget and the community as a whole.

## Methods

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

For the low income spay/neuter voucher program targeted at pets, dogs and cats, citizens of Ft. Pierce have the opportunity to have their pet transported to and from spay/neuter surgery. United for Animals, a local 501(C)(3), has provided this transport service for the past eight years. Funds to implement this service are provided by the City of Fort Pierce. Citizens in low income housing or who provide proof of financial hardship in the form of a food stamp card, proof of Medicaid, or proof of social security disability falling below U.S. Department of Health set poverty guidelines are eligible to get free pet transport and a free sterilization voucher from the city. Regarding eligibility for our new TNR program, any cat determined to be feral and captured within Fort Pierce city limits can be surgically altered, ear tipped and inoculated for rabies under the City's program. Services other than the spay/neuter surgery will be funded through donations other than dollars granted under the State program. Transportation of feral cats to surgery can be provided by U.F.A., City Animal Control or what is projected to be most often the case, existing citizen feral cat colony caretakers who capture cats under their care.

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

Our ordinances and services are currently posted on Ft. Pierce TV. This is a cable station that airs Commission meetings, City committee meetings and special events that runs public information posting in between these aforementioned segments. Also our Ft Pierce Utility Authority mails electric, gas, water and garbage bills which includes enclosed circulars advertising various community endeavors. This new TNR program can be advertised in this manner as well as word of mouth via the extensive network of community cat caregivers and advocate organizations. Feedback will determine the need for employing other advertising mediums such as local newspapers and radio stations.

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

As reported in this application, the City has provided the operational expenses for transportation of citizen owned pets; i.e. dogs and cats to and from spay/neuter surgeries related to the City's low income voucher program, in conjunction with United for Animals personnel for the past eight years. This will continue for financially challenged pet owners within the framework of any expansion of spay/neuter services a grant award would allow. This partnership will be a transportation resource for a TNR program in association with participating community cat caretakers, involved citizens and Ft. Pierce Animal Control officers. Our advertisement mediums will include foreign language sections in Spanish and Creole. Cages purchased for the purpose of capturing community cats for surgery will be purchased with available funds. (Cages vary in price but \$70 per cage appears to be an average cost. To add to what will be needed, our local vets and organizations have reported owning and offering to lend in excess of fifty cages.) Delivery and retrieval of cages can be effected by Ft. Pierce Animal Control, U.F.A. representatives, and verifiable Ft Pierce residents.

**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.**

United for Animals volunteers that have been performing 'pets-to-and-from-surgery' transportation services within the public /private partnership agreement includes a former vet technician and individuals who have proven competent for a period near a decade. United for Animals maintains the necessary liability insurance to cover unforeseen eventualities in conjunction with coverage provided by our City relating to the operation of the City owned transport van used by U.F.A. The van has within its walls, six cages for transportation. Within the framework of the TNR program, this van will be incorporated, as will our City's three Animal Control trucks and vehicles operated by involved citizens and citizen cat caretakers.

**Veterinary Services**

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

We have several vets and vet clinics that have participated in our City's voucher program. These have included significant participation by Dr. Dan's Animal Hospital, Rescue Adoption, (vets hired under the umbrella of this 501(C)(3) Vets involved with Operation Catsnip which include those working at Morningside Animal Hospital, principally Dr. Jennifer Ditrapani, Dr Lynnly Miller and Dr Julie Kittams (Operation SOS) who has recently located to our area and has established a mobile spay/neuter van, Holy Family Animal Hospital, and the Humane Society of St. Lucie County clinic. Participation in our new TNR program will revolve around the schedules of these dedicated, philanthropic professionals and organizations.

Are they:  In-house  Private Vet(s)  Combination

**Veterinary Practices**

Practice Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Lead Practice
Dr. Dan's Animal Hospital	1624 14th Avenue	Vero Beach	FL	34962	772-567-8468	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Holy Family Veterinary Hospital	709 Pelican Center US 1	Fort Pierce	FL	34950	772-242-8320	<input type="checkbox"/>
Humane Society of St Lucie County	100 Savannah Road	Fort Pierce	FL	34950	772-461-0687	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morningside Animal Hospital	1626 SE Port St Lucie Blvd	Port St Lucie	FL	34952	772-337-0800	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rescue Adoption Inc	3802 Oleander Avenue	Fort Pierce	FL	34982	772-618-3334	<input 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
<b>Range for Male Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$40.00"/>
<b>Range for Female Cats</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$45.00"/>
<b>Range for Male Dogs</b>	<input type="text" value="\$0.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$65.00"/>	<input type="text" value="\$65.00"/>

Range for Female Dogs

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
Rabies 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
HW Testing	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Feline Leuk/FIV	<input type="radio"/> Required <input type="radio"/> Optional <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Available	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
County License	<input type="radio"/> Required <input checked="" type="radio"/> Optional <input type="radio"/> Not Available	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="text" value="\$10.00"/>
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
Microchip	<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

None of the anticipated grant funds can be used for any of the above services, except for pain medication.

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

The current voucher program requires the owner be responsible to cover the cost of the rabies vaccination. It will be included at no charge for the TNR/Community Cat program, funded by the C.V. Pary Foundation. Also per the amended ordinance, community cats are exempt for the licensing requirements. Microchips are included at no charge for the current voucher program but funding would need to be identified to include in the TNR program and is still under discussion.

Is this a voucher program? Yes

If so, how will you assure compliance with the program?

Our grant application is in two parts. One is to assist pet owning citizens with spay/neuter surgeries, as explained in this application, and this part of the program requires a voucher. Our other request is for assistance with funding to establish a new TNR program which is not a voucher program. We will keep records of who brought us free roaming cats to sterilize along with from what location and any and all other pertinent information.

For your voucher program, how have you determined the capacity of the veterinarians listed above to handle the projected capacity?

The existing veterinary community has for eight years handled our community program's needs with great dedication and professionalism, resulting in very few problems. We now have pledges resulting from word of our new TNR plans, from additional vets interested in this effort.

Will you have the ability to report the number of vouchers issued and the percentage that result in S/N surgeries?

Yes

### Community Collaboration

To assure the success of your program, are there any local groups (such as rescue groups, animal control agencies, TNR groups, local businesses, local media, social service agencies, etc.) other than your organization and your cooperating veterinarians who are committed to assist?

Yes  No

Please list them and detail their level of involvement with the proposed effort.

Name	Level of Involvement
Operation Catsnip	Participating volunteer organization. Activities will be coordinated by United for Animals.
Spay & Neuter Alliance of the Treasure Coast	Participating volunteer organization. Activities will be coordinated by United for Animals.
United for Animals	United for Animals will be the lead volunteer organization responsible for canvassing for all targeted animals and interacting with pet owners. They will coordinate the other volunteer organizations and cat colony caretakers. United for Animals will also transport as many pets and free roaming cats to and from surgery as time and money will allow. They also educate all citizens involved in how to care for dogs and cats after surgery and the many benefits of these programs.

## Other Information

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

The currently operated City voucher program in conjunction with its pet licensing and anti-tethering ordinances has been quantifiably successful in reducing the homeless dog situation locally, essentially reducing dog impounds to one half of what occurred before these programs were put in place. We hope additional dollars will allow our low cost voucher program, primarily currently used by dog owning citizens, to be expanded. Our planned new TNR program will involve local participating vets for surgeries, our currently operating city van for transportation, local citizens for capturing and transportation to surgery. We plan to mirror the methods successfully established by Jacksonville based 'Target Zero,' Dr. Julie Levy, University of Florida's renowned pioneer in the field of TNR and other successful endeavors. We will target areas of our city, one at a time, bounded by geographic borders such as highways and rivers. We will work with citizens providing traps and techniques for catching feral cats. We will organize surgery days and coordinate the many factors that will go into such an effort. The grant dollars provided will be used for surgical spay/neutering. Cages that can be lent to citizens for capturing feral cats will be funded with donations including a pledged matching grant of 50 cents for each dollar granted by the State; which will be used for rabies inoculation and ear-tipping as well. The matching grant comes from the Concetta Viggiano Parry Foundation Trust of Ft. Pierce, Florida. This Trust is a past benefactor that has consistently provided tens of thousands of contributed dollars toward our City's homeless pet-reduction programs.

## Budget

### **Total number of sterilization surgeries projected:**

**Cats:** 400 **Dogs:** 200

**Total budget requested (Budget should not exceed \$25,000):** \$22,000.00

**Average cost/surgery projected:** \$37.00

### **Describe any expenses that are not included in the grant and how they will be paid for (for example, vaccines, microchipping, ear notching, etc.):**

All expenses, other than surgery expenses, will be paid through other charitable pledges and the City's general fund. These will include cages, inoculations, transportation etc. for the TNR program, and transportation and inoculations for the voucher program.

### **Describe any other funding sources for this program, i.e. other grants, targeted fundraising efforts, budget allocation, etc.**

Besides the 50 cent on the dollar pledge from the C.V. Parry Foundation Trust to match any funding your organization may provide, The Pegasus Foundation has in past years made significant donations to local spay/neuter efforts. Also there is a significant percentage of the Ft. Pierce City general fund which has supported the cause of reducing homeless animals. While that will continue, it is our hope that you will aid us in our attempt to reduce this burden in a community where the median household income is \$27,500.00; very low by Florida standards.

### **What percent of the total cost of the program would this projected grant cover?**

25%

## Timeline

**All projects must be completed within 12 months of receipt of funding.**

**Projected start date:** 09/01/17/    **Projected end date:** 08/31/18

**Unexpended funds**

Any unexpended funds must be refunded to Florida Animal Friend within 30 days of the end of the project.

**Requests for extensions**

Requests for time extensions are discouraged and not often granted. If it is imperative to request an extension, such request must be made in writing at least 30 days prior to the end of the project. It is FAF's policy to seldom grant more than a 30-60 day extension.

Failure to submit reports and requests within the required time period will impact your agency's future grant applications.

**Future Funding to Sustain Public Spay/Neuter**

**\*Explain how the organization plans to fund this program in the future. Having sustainable plans including other grants, local donations and other services generating revenue enhances the chances of receiving this grant.**

The City has witnessed quantifiable benefits from its current programs intended to curb waste generated by homeless pets. Spay/neuter efforts with commensurate education and ordinances have inspired local elected officials to fund these programs for the past eight years. This funding has become a staple in the minds of our leaders so as to not see our community revert to the near \$300,000.00 amount previously paid to our local Humane Society for pet sheltering, instead of the \$130,000.00 charge we now enjoy. Additionally, our Differential Licence program and contract with PetData to administer the program has resulted in year-over-year increases in revenue. The revenue listed on this application is strictly licensing income that will be used to support our sterilization program. Other consistent contributors include The C.V. Parry Foundation Trust, The Pegasus Foundation through their Spay/Neuter Alliance program and United for Animals. Dr. Dan's Animal Hospital's Dr. Sara Mathews has been for a decade a tireless proponent of this mission providing untold value in the form of low cost sterilization surgeries. Sharon Cooper and her associates at Operation Catsnip have dedicated thousands of hours over the years, capturing, altering and caring for community cats. 'Rescue Adoption' has become an integral component in spay/neuter efforts. These mentioned along with the other veterinarians and dedicated organizations listed in this application have pledged continued support for what we believe has been to date, a model of an effective cost saving, homeless pet-reducing experiment.

**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 and promote the sale of the Animal Friend license plate via press releases, newsletters, website links, social media, etc. Please describe your plan to promote the Florida Animal Friend Spay/Neuter License Plate. Grantees are required to submit documentation of promotional endeavors with their final report.**

All forms and flyers used in the program will include the FloridaAnimalFriend.org information and logo. This will also be included in the TV advertisements and on the City's website.