

Project Description

This is a General description of the Grant project. Outline in detail the humanitarian need your project will address, the intent of the project, how the project will be implemented, and how Rotarians will be directly involved in the project. Note that the Estimated budget is only the initial grant request amount; to outline details on the various budget items, including those from other funding sources, go to the Budget tab.

Grant Project: Claws and Paws
Primary Sponsoring Club: Rotary Club of Edinburg
Contact: Chapa, Amando
Date Submitted: Jul 31, 2015 at 5:42 PM
Project Total Budget: \$35,000.00
Grant Budget: \$35,000.00
Project Expected Income: \$35,000.00
Grant Expected Income: \$5,000.00

General Description

Describe the project and the problem or need it will address, including the intended beneficiaries and how the project will benefit the community in need. Provide the estimated length of time needed to complete the project.

See Memorandum of Understanding between applicant and District 5930

Palm Valley Animal Center cares for homeless companion animals and enhances the relationship between animals and people through adoptions, education and community outreach. Education is the key to preventing cruelty and neglect. The sooner we can reach young people with the message of compassion towards animals, the more the animals and our community will benefit. Palm Valley Animal Center is committed to educating the public on issues relating to animal welfare providing a variety of programs for the community. Palm Valley will conduct presentations at schools, service clubs, and women's groups in addition to various religious groups. Power Point presentations are provided for an assortment of curriculums. Educational literature is provided for students of all ages from pre-kinder to University students. Comprehensive activities are provided for elementary school students. This program will reach over five thousand (5000) children and students in the Rio Grande Valley.

Community Assessment & Impact

Describe how the benefiting community has been determined and what impact will be made by this project after grant funding has been fully expended.

Palm Valley Animal Center Community Education Program" (Claws and Paws)— With an average overall intake of over 35,000 abandoned, lost or unwanted animals entering Palm Valley Animal Center, it is a daunting task to save as many companion animals as possible. While the adoption program operates 7 days a week and adoptions are anticipated at near 2,000 this year, and Rescue Program is approaching 1,300 rescues a year a primary key to reducing the stray and abandoned population of pets requires the education of the community. Claws and Paws project focus an education program in the direction of children and youth, and will over time begin to change how the community views these dependent creatures. Over the course of a year Education Program Director, Brenda Torres, from Palm Valley will provide educational presentations in dozens of elementary schools, providing instruction on the humane treatment of pets and all animals.

PVAC not only provides educational programs, but will offer full service adoption program and rescue services, working with rescue organization around the state. Claws and Paws project will also provide a Foster Care Program and Volunteer Program services to involve the community and provide much needed instruction for children concerning responsible pet ownership. The aim of this project is to reduce or eliminate euthanize of an animal until the population problem gets under control, it will have to continue because there is no other option.

Sustainability

Please explain the plan on how to maintain this project for a long period of time.

A state-of-the-art facility is in the works to open in the Rio Grande Valley early this year. The facility, Pet Adoption and Wellness Services of the Rio Grande Valley (RGV PAWS), will be located on Roger Road and Highway 281 in Edinburg.

As the only Animal Center serving Hidalgo County, more than 40,000 animals enter The Palm Valley Animal Center's doors annually.

We believe, working together as a community we can forever alter the lives of companion animals in the Rio Grande Valley. Getting this new facility in operation will increase adoptions, expand educational opportunities, enlarge foster and volunteer programs and improve the overall welfare of pets.

We are confident this new facility will become a wonderful gathering place for animal lovers and be instrumental at turning the tide of abandoned and unwanted companion animals, beginning first in Hidalgo County.

The sustainability we will not only build RGV PAWS, but will also improve the quality of life for people and pets by placing healthy dogs and cats with adoptive families and reducing the numbers of homeless pets in the community through spay/neuter programs and education of children and adults in our community.

Implementation Plan

Describe specific activities of the sponsoring club and any partners in implementing the project. What will the Rotarians who are members of the partner clubs do during the project? Please note that financial support is not considered active involvement.

Rotarians will be volunteering their time to assist with the educational aspect of “Claws and Paws” Project, related lesson plans promoting character, and responsibility, as well as classroom presentations, and adoption processing.

Expected Expenses

List all anticipated expenses for this project, including those that will be funded outside of the District grant portion.

Description	Supplier	Currency	Total	Amount
Resources to support volunteers, especially children and youth	Rotary Clubs	USD	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Low Cost Spay and Neuter Programs.				
Community educational resources, multi-media and	DDF 5930	USD	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Resources to support volunteers				
Community education				
classrooms and resources using multi-media.	City of Edinburg	USD	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
			Total:	\$35,000.00

Expected Income

List all anticipated income for this project, including funds that will be contributed by the club, other partners and the District grant portion.

Description	Funding Source	Amount	%
Community education and training for children and youth. Programs promoting civic responsibility and character development.	Club/Other	\$2,000.00	5.71 %
Partnering Rotary Clubs Resources to support volunteers, especially children and youth.	Club/Other	\$3,000.00	8.57 %
Dedicated outdoor family recreational and educational areas.Memorial areas to commemorate beloved pets and a public access dog park.	Club/Other	\$25,000.00	71.43 %
Low Cost Spay and Neuter Programs and Community education classrooms and resources using multi-media, Educational books, brochures, computers, for Presentations.	District Grant	\$5,000.00	14.29 %
Total:		\$35,000.00	100.00 %

Local Club Partners

List any partnering clubs within the District. Note that only one grant application needs to be made by the main sponsoring club.

Club	Contact Name	Contribution
Rotary Club of Edinburg	Frances Dicus	2,000.00

Cooperating Organizations

Explanation: Cooperating Organizations are any other groups or organizations (other than partnering Rotary clubs) that are working with the sponsoring club in either funding or implementing the project.

JOINT PROGRAMS WITH BOYS & GIRLS CLUB, THE IDEA ACADEMY, and the CITY OF EDINBURG

To bring about real change in our community for problems as complex as the neglect and mistreatment of animals requires:

- Multiple services and collaboration with other community organizations.

· An emphasis on changing the values and behaviors of future generations regarding the treatment of animals.

The co-location of the new animal center on a campus with the Boys & Girls Club of Edinburg and the IDEA Academy is totally without precedent. It creates the unique opportunity for implementing innovative education, training and volunteer programs for children and youth. Early intervention - bringing together community resources and efforts - targeting children - whether for care, education or humane treatment of animals - can bring about the desired changes in values and then behavior. With the City of Edinburg contributing to educational facilities, and educational resources.