

Maddie's Fund[®] Spay/Neuter Application for a Community Collaborative Project

SAMPLE LETTER TO VETERINARIANS REQUESTING BASELINE YEAR DATA

Date

Name

Address

City, State Zip

Dear

The **[name of Lead Agency]** is very pleased to tell you about an exciting opportunity that awaits veterinarians working in private practice veterinary hospitals, non-profit and government spay/neuter clinics in **[name of target community]**.

Maddie's Fund[®], a California-based private family foundation devoted to animal welfare, has established a grants program to fund community collaborations of adoption guarantee groups working with animal control shelters, traditional shelters and veterinarians to reduce the killing of healthy and treatable shelter dogs and cats to zero in ten years.¹ The **[name of Lead Agency]**, as part of the coalition in **[name of target community]**, is in the process of applying for a grant under this program. If the coalition is successful in obtaining a Maddie's Fund grant, the **[name of Lead Agency]** will receive funding to pay private practice veterinary hospitals, non-profit and government spay/neuter clinics for the spaying or neutering of cats and dogs belonging to low-income people who receive Medicaid benefits. Participating groups would be reimbursed according to the following chart:

Spay/Neuter Fees	MF Surgery Payment				Public Co Pay				Total Payment to Vets/Clinics (incl Public Co-Pay)			
	CATS		DOGS		CATS		DOGS		CATS		DOGS	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Private Practice Vet Hosp	\$30	\$75	\$50	\$120	\$10	\$10	\$20	\$20	\$40	\$85	\$70	\$140
Non-Profit & Gov't Clinics	\$25	\$60	\$35	\$90	\$10	\$10	\$20	\$20	\$35	\$70	\$55	\$110

Many caring and compassionate veterinarians, practicing in **[name of target community]**, have generously been performing free or low-cost spay/neuter surgeries for many years. If this project is funded, it will open up new ways for qualified veterinarians to:

- reduce the number of homeless animals;
- participate in a collaborative effort with animal care groups to decrease the number of dogs and cats euthanized in **[name of target community]** shelters;

¹ Maddie's Fund[®] The Pet Rescue Foundation (www.maddiesfund.org) is a family foundation funded by PeopleSoft and Workday Founder Dave Duffield and his wife, Cheryl, to help create a no-kill nation where all healthy and treatable (sick, injured and poorly behaved) shelter pets are guaranteed a loving home. Maddie's Fund is named after the family's beloved Miniature Schnauzer who passed away in 1997.

- ❑ help people provide their animal companions with important veterinary care; and
- ❑ receive recognition and compensation for their efforts.

As part of the grant application, **[name of Lead Agency]** needs to submit spay/neuter statistics from each veterinarian in **[name of target community]** who would like to be included in this project. If you are interested in participating, please complete the attached form for your veterinary hospital/clinic and return it to **[name of Lead Agency]** by **[date]**. This information will only be included in the grant application and shared with Maddie's Fund. If we are successful in obtaining the grant, a composite of the data will be used to measure the impact of spay/neuter on reducing shelter populations in **[name of target community]**. No individual hospital's statistics will be publicly disclosed.

If you have any questions, please contact me at **[phone number]**. On behalf of **[name of Lead Agency]**, thank you for making a lifesaving difference for the animals of **[name of target community]**.

Sincerely

[name & title]

*PS: If we succeed in obtaining a grant for this program, we will ask you to continue to submit surgery statistics to us on a monthly basis for the duration of the project. In this way, **[name of Led Agency]** and Maddie's Fund intend to study the impact of spay/neuter on reducing shelter populations in our community.*