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Project Families Forever

Process: 2026 - The Rachel Ray Save Them All Grants and The Rachael Ray No-Kill Excellence Grants

Contact Info

Request

Documents 0

Applicant:

Mrs. Laura Flamion

laura.flamion@dupagecounty.gov

630-407-2806

2255 Manchester Rd

Wheaton, IL 60189 USA

Organization:DuPage County Animal Services 

36-6006551

630-407-2800

120 N County Farm Rd

Wheaton, IL 60189 USA



Contact Email History

If your Organization information does not appear correct, please contact the funder. Thank you.

 LOI Application Document Viewer FollowUp Packet Question List Follow Up Fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

▼ Basis

THE
RACHAELRAY[™]
FOUNDATION

Best Friends Animals Society (“Best Friends” or “BFAS”) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation based in Kanab, Utah, whose mission is **No More Homeless Pets®**. Best Friends feels privileged to help save lives by working with organizations and agencies by providing funding for specific grants and/or needs in its commitment to No Kill 2025.

Recipient is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit animal welfare charity or a municipal shelter which has submitted a grant request to Best Friends requesting to be awarded a grant pursuant to the below terms (the “Grant”). The Grant funds shall be disbursed upon receipt of the signed agreement and copy of the Recipient’s IRS FORM W9.

This grant agreement (“Agreement”) will govern the terms of the Grant. Each party shall be referred to herein individually as a “Party,” and collectively as the “Parties.” The Parties hereby agree to the following terms and conditions as of the date on which it is fully executed by both Parties (the “Effective Date”).

✓ Agreement- Grant Term and Amount

AGREEMENT

Section 1. Use of Grant Fund.

Grant Proposal and Use of Funds (clearly outline expected impact for total project AND outline benchmarks/goals broken out by quarter) (the “Project”)

The “Term” of this Agreement, unless terminated pursuant to the language below will be from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

Grants will be provided in ***one-time installment*** with Best Friends’ obligation to disburse initial funds conditional upon receipt of Recipient’s completed IRS Form W-9. All subsequent funding installments after initial grant installment will be contingent upon Project progression and completion of expected goals and reporting listed in the Agreement.

Grant Installment Sent: Approximately January 2, 2026

Use of Funds and Goals for Entire Project

Provide diversion services to at least 50 pets via the collaboration with Pause for a Cause Vet Care.

4,899 characters left of 5,000

Goals and Benchmarks for Quarter 1 - Quarter 4

Goals and Benchmarks for Quarter 1: Divert at least 10 pets during this quarter by providing access to medical care.

Goals and Benchmarks for Quarter 2: Divert at least 20 pets during this quarter by providing access to veterinary care.

Goals and Benchmarks for Quarter 3: Divert at least 10 pets during this quarter by providing access to veterinary care.

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Which Grant are you submitting a grant proposal for?

- ☐ The Rachael Ray Save Them All
- ☒ The Rachael Ray No-Kill Excellence

Project Name

Name of Project.

Project Families Forever

Amount Awarded?

\$ 20,000.00

Approved Total Projected Impacts

50

Grant Project Deadline: December 31, 2026

✓ Use of Grant Funds

Section 2. Recipient Requirements

A. Recipient agrees to provide quarterly impact reports through the Term of the Agreement, and payment installments for the Grant will be contingent upon receipt of impact reports and overall progress to goal, as previously defined by Project benchmarks. Recipient agrees to submit impact

reports provided by Best Friends outlining the use of the Grant funds until all funds have been spent. These grant reports must include amount of funding spent and the number of cats or dogs positively impacted. With each impact report Recipient will provide any relevant success stories of animals helped through the program, or descriptions of how the Grant has impacted the target community.

- B. Recipient agrees to provide a final grant report upon completion of the Term of this Agreement. With the final grant report, Recipient will provide any relevant success stories of animals helped through the program, or descriptions of how the Grant has impacted the target community.
- C. Recipient is registered or will become registered with SHELTER PET DATA ALLIANCE (SPDA) website and submit MONTHLY DATA REPORTING INTO SPDA by the 15th of each month through the Term of this Agreement.
- D. Recipient is a member of the Best Friends Network and will maintain such membership through the Term of this Agreement.

Section 3. Grant Branding Terms and Promotion

Recipient shall cooperate with Best Friends regarding the promotion of the Grant and the Project. Both Parties may issue reports or statements to its members, the media, and the public about the Grant and the Project. This includes, but is not limited to websites, newsletters, press releases, magazine articles, blogs, and podcasts. Recipient shall reasonably cooperate with Best Friends staff, volunteer team leaders, and news or magazine writers in the production of such news content. Recipient agrees to cooperate with Best Friends and facilitate promotion of the Grant and the Project through the Best Friends website, newsletters, electronic news distributions, press releases, and other media outlets.

Section 4. Photo, Video, Digital and Audio Release

Recipient grants to Best Friends permission and rights to photograph, video, and audio record any of Recipient's programs or events for the duration of the Grant. Recipient grants Best Friends the right to indefinitely use such photographs, videos or digital images and voices. This release covers all photos, videos, and audio recordings made by Best Friends or its employees, contractors, or agents. Recipient understands and agrees that these photographs, videos, or digital images and recordings may be used by Best Friends in its sole discretion including for identification purposes, to promote or report about Best Friends events, activities, and mission; to raise donations, or for other purposes. This includes, but is not limited to, any royalties, proceeds, or other benefits derived from such images or recordings. This release remains in effect even after the end of this Agreement.

Recipient further agrees not to make any claim against Best Friends or its employees, contractors, or agents for the use of these photographs, videos or digital image or voice recordings. Recipient understands this Agreement releases and forever discharges Best Friends from any liability to Recipient, its successors, and

assigns with respect to personal injury, property damage or other loss or damages that may result as a result from the making and use of photographs, videos or digital image or voice recordings.

Section 5. Non-Disparagement

During the Term of this Agreement, and for two (2) years after this Agreement's termination, Recipient agrees to take reasonable commercial measures to ensure that its representatives and Recipient's official media outlets do not make statements, including but not limited to social media posts, regarding the activities covered by this Agreement that are intended to or likely to bring Best Friends into disrepute.

Standard Terms

Section 6. Grant Recipient Representations and Warranties

Recipient represents and warrants as follows during the Term of this Agreement:

- A. Recipient is a qualified 501(c)(3) entity or government organization.
- B. Recipient acknowledges that its animal welfare activities may be governed by a variety of federal, state, and local laws. Recipient hereby warrants that it shall use its best efforts to comply with all applicable laws and shall not knowingly violate same.
- C. There are no claims, investigations, or proceedings in progress, pending or threatened against Recipient which, if determined adversely, would have a material effect on Recipient's ability to fulfill its obligations pursuant to this Agreement and there are no claims, investigations, or proceedings in progress, pending or threatened against Recipient which involve animal neglect or abuse.
- D. The individual signing this Agreement on behalf of Recipient is legally competent to enter into this Agreement duly authorized to do so by the Recipient.

Section 7. Grant Restrictions

In addition to abiding by the requirement that the Grant funds be used in furtherance of the program described in Recipient's grant application, Recipient specifically agrees that no portion of the Grant funds will be used for any of the following: (i) to lobby or otherwise attempt to influence legislation; (ii) to influence outcome of any specific public election or participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office or conduct, directly or indirectly; (iii) to support or oppose any elected official or candidate for public office or on any particular issue.

Section 8. Termination

Recipient may terminate this Agreement upon providing ten (10) business days written notice to Best Friends in the event of the following events of default:

- (i) By its actions or statements, Best Friends materially harms Recipient as determined by Recipient in its reasonable judgment;

(ii) Best Friends files for bankruptcy, sells, assigns, or transfers the majority of its assets to another entity, or ceases to operate as a nonprofit corporation.

Best Friends may terminate this Agreement upon providing ten (10) business days written notice to the Recipient in the event of the following events of default:

- (i) By its actions or statements, Recipient materially harms Best Friends as determined by Best Friends in its reasonable judgment;
- (ii) Recipient files for bankruptcy, sells, assigns, or transfers the majority of its assets to another entity, or ceases to operate as a nonprofit corporation (if a nonprofit corporation); or
- (iii) Recipient fails to perform its commitments as set out in this Agreement, including, in the reasonable judgment of Best Friends, failing to carry out the Project with reasonable diligence to meet the goal of saving as many animal lives as possible or has not worked in good faith with professionalism to achieve the mutually agreed upon Goals.

In the event Best Friends terminates this Agreement pursuant to this section, Best Friends has no obligation to pay Recipient any grant payment not yet due at the time of the notice of such termination.

Section 9. Intellectual Property License

For the Term of this Agreement, Recipient grants Best Friends a non-exclusive, royalty free license to use Agency's name and/or logo to promote Agency's lifesaving activities associated with the Grant and the Project. Other than the foregoing, neither Party may use the other Party's logos, trademarks, or other intellectual property without express written permission of the other Party.

Section 10. Release

To the full extent permitted by law, the Recipient, their directors, officers, employees, representatives, agents, successors, and assigns, agree never to bring a claim or suit against Best Friends relating to the Grant and the Project. The Recipient agrees Best Friends and its directors, officers, employees, representatives, agents, contractors, successors and assigns ("Releasees") are not responsible for any of the decisions, plans, guidelines, work, or activities related to or arising from the Grant and the Project. The Recipient releases Best Friends and its directors, founders, employees, officers, agents, representatives, contractors, volunteers, successors and assigns from all liability arising from any work or activities related to the Grant and the Project. The Recipient understands this Agreement discharges Releasees from any liability to the Recipients with respect to bodily injury, personal injury, illness, death, property damage or other loss of any kind or nature whatsoever, direct, or indirect, known or unknown, that may result as a result of the Recipient's work, participation and activities related to this Grant and the Project.

Section 11. Indemnity Agreement

To the full extent permitted by law, the Recipient and their directors, officers, agents, employees, representatives, successors and assigns, agree to indemnify and hold Releasees harmless for all bodily injury, personal injury, illness, death, property damage or other losses of any kind or nature

whatsoever, direct or indirect, known or unknown, including attorney's fees and costs of litigation that result to anyone else or any other entity because of Recipient's actions or omissions related to the Grant and the Project or any breach by Recipient of this Agreement. This includes lone acts or omissions by the Recipient as well as the combined acts of the Recipient with others.

Section 12. Proprietary Information

Recipient acknowledges and agree that the following constitute "Proprietary Information": any secret or proprietary information relating directly to Best Friends business, including, but not limited to, the Best Friends Network and donation process, services, members, donor and volunteer lists, business policies, employment records and policies, operational methods, marketing plans and strategies, business development plans, new personnel acquisition plans, technical processes, designs and design projects, inventions and research programs, trade know-how, trade secrets, specific software, algorithms, computer processing systems, object and source codes, user manuals, systems documentation, and other business and financial affairs of Best Friends. It is not anticipated that Recipient will have access to Best Friends proprietary information as a result of this Agreement. Nonetheless, Recipient acknowledges and agrees that in the event Recipient learns of or comes into possession of any Best Friends proprietary information, Recipient will notify Best Friends and return said information. Recipient agrees that they will not use, supply or disclose any Proprietary Information it happens to learn of to any third party.

Section 13. No Third-Party Beneficiaries

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to give any person or entity other than the Parties to this Agreement any legal or equitable claim, right or remedy; rather, this Agreement is intended to be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the Parties hereto.

Section 14. Survival of Terms

The intellectual property rights, including the rights to use photos, digital, audio and video materials, agreed to in this agreement are perpetual. The releases are perpetual. The agreement to maintain Proprietary Information confidential is perpetual. The Non-Disparagement clause survives for two (2) years following the termination of this Agreement.

Section 15. Other Terms

The provisions in this Agreement bind the successors and assigns of Recipient. Each term of this Agreement is material. Recipient agrees that in the event that any clause or provision of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of such clause or provision shall not otherwise affect the remaining provisions of this Agreement. This is the entire agreement between the Parties and supersedes any other verbal or written statements, representations, or promises.

This Agreement shall not be construed to constitute any form of partnership, agency, or joint venture

between Best Friends and Recipient. Neither Party is responsible in any way for the debts of the other or any other party, or any breach of any law, rule, regulation, complaint, grievance, custom, or guideline of the other. Neither Party has authority to bind the other to any contractual or other agreements and in no event shall either Party represent or hold itself out as acting on behalf of the other Party hereto.

This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Utah. Any disputes arising out of or related to this Agreement will be resolved in a Utah State Court of competent jurisdiction in Kane County, Utah.

Impacted Shelter Statistics- Acknowledgement of Requirement*

Recipient agrees to provide **quarterly** statistics for all impacted shelters named in the application. Baseline statistics is required for January 2024 to July 2025, broken down monthly, as well as for the duration of the grant project. Shelter stats must include: dog intakes, dog live outcomes, dog other outcomes, cat intakes, cat live outcomes, and cat other outcomes. Statistics for both species are required, even if your grant is focused only on a single species. Recipient understands that failure to provide these statistics may impact future funding opportunities.

- ☒ I understand and agree to provide quarterly stats for all impacted shelters.
- ☐ I do not agree to provide quarterly stats for all impacted shelters.

Acceptance of Terms and Conditions*

This grant is conditional upon Recipient's acceptance of the terms and conditions set forth herein. By selecting the "I Accept Grant Terms and Conditions" below, Recipient agrees to accept and comply with the stated terms and conditions of this grant.

- ☒ I Accept Grant Terms and Conditions
- ☐ I Decline Grant Terms and Conditions

Email Opt-In*

By providing contact information above you agree to receive email communication from the Best Friends Network at the email addresses provided and you can unsubscribe at any time.

- ☒ I agree

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

By typing in my Name, Title, and Date in the spaces below, and clicking submit, I confirm that I am an authorized representative of Network partner and intend to affix my electronic signature to FY 2026 Rachael Ray Foundation Grant Agreement, with the intent to be bound thereby.

The authorized representative agrees that the representative's electronic signatures is intended to authenticate this writing and to have the same force and effect as a manual signature for purposes of validity, enforceability, and admissibility.

Full Name*

Laura Flamion

Title*

Administrator

Date*



12/16/2025

Upload a copy of your shelter/organization's most recent signed and completed W-9.*

W-9 DuPage County.pdf [62.0 KiB] 

Best Friends Animal Society