

This week's lesson will cover three more sections of the proposal template. We'll do:

Accomplishments

Results expected

Timeframe for implementation

Large amounts or small amounts, anyone who gives away money wants to know their generosity will make a difference and accomplish positive things.

If you send \$50 to sponsor a dog at a high-kill shelter, aren't you motivated to know the outcome? That's human-nature and exactly why you must write about your past accomplishments and future results. You are making a "case" that the grant-makers money will be well-spent.

Your organization does great things every day and here's your chance to show it off! Toot your horn and go into some detail. Write as much as you can, without going over any page limits they might set.

It's easy to confuse these first two sections. Accomplishments should be about what you have already achieved, or are currently achieving. The following section on "results expected" will highlight what additional funding will help you achieve in the future. In a nutshell you must tell the funder what their money will buy.

Timeframe for implementation can be a short section, especially if the grant proposal is for general operating funds. However, if you do have some sort of deadline for a project or program, be sure to include specifics. This requires planning far ahead, since some foundation boards may only meet twice a year to decide on grant proposals.

Accomplishments Example #1:

In the four years since our non-profit formation, we have assisted in rescue, placement and transport of over 950 animals, wild and domestic.

Some of our accomplishments include saving a group of over 30 dogs from an abandoned, burned out house. These dogs were neglected and in dire need of medical care. Some were heavily matted with painful sores under their fur. Others had advanced heartworm disease, a cause of many needless

deaths and much suffering. We were able to treat and save each and every one of these sweet creatures. We call it our “Christmas rescue” since it occurred in December of 2005.

In the summer of 2006, we assumed the on-going maintenance and responsibility of a second cat/animal building. This building is a large movable wooden building adapted for the cats, fully finished off and appointed inside with many cozy areas and outdoor runs, already in use at another location.

The former owner was no longer able to care for the resident felines in the building. Fifteen resident cats came to us with the building, increasing our number to thirty-two cats. All receive full veterinary care, check-ups, as well as on-going monthly care for parasites/fleas and sporadic health needs, as we promote them to their new families!

Caring for “special needs” animals is another of our important accomplishments. Milo and Jazz are recent examples of two neglected dogs suffering horribly, helped by our group, Friends of Animals.

Jazz had a terrible festering sore in her paw, apparently for months. We could not stand aside and see her continue to suffer any longer. She had surgery to remove a large, hunk of sharp wood from the infected area. Her surgery costs alone were \$400 on top of daily care costs. Jazz is happy and healthy now, in the safe hands at her forever home.

Milo, a golden retriever mix, came to us upon being seized by the police. He was severely underweight and starved to less than ½ his normal weight. In addition he was hairless from a skin infection and heartworm infected. He could barely stand and was near death. (See before and after images attached of Milo)

With tender loving care, patience and consistent meals, Milo put on weight and now thrives. He was adopted and lives in a new, loving home, where he now knows that life can be wonderful. He did not have to be “euthanized” as was the authorities plan. Some of his story can be seen on our YOUTUBE video at our website.

Accomplishments Example #2

Some of our recent accomplishments include establishing working relationships with reputable rescue groups. This is new for our shelter. But, because of the severe animal overpopulation problem and a low human population, local adoptions can only account for a small percentage of the homeless animals.

This does not keep us from our goal of finding forever homes. We have gradually been lowering our euthanasia rate at our shelter (see statistics attached) and we are highly motivated to continue.

Since mid-October 2005 we have rescued 205 dogs and cats (from our shelter) into loving homes and no-kill shelters primarily in Minnesota, Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin. Another 110 have been transported to Vermont, New York and New Hampshire. This vital work is on-going at least until the animal over-population gets reduced.

Arranging and driving these rescues requires a great deal of hard-work, dedication and gasoline. Many emails and long distance phone calls are required as well. We have a volunteer adoption coordinator who is worth her weight in gold!

We also work with a group of disabled individuals, both adults and teenagers, who volunteer weekly at our shelter—certainly a win-win situation for all. In 2006, our group received a city-wide award from the mayor for this unique volunteer program.

In addition, our shelter manager does presentations at our local library to educate kids on humane treatment and other animal-related issues.

Results expected Example #1:

Additional funds would save the lives of more companion animals and increase our overall number of adoptions. Currently we're an all volunteer group, but we are considering hiring a part-time person, if and when funding allows. This would greatly increase our potential.

We want to be the guardian angels for animals in need including both owner surrenders and strays.

Expansion would allow us to rescue more animals which otherwise will go to the local animal shelter, or be injured on the highway. Sadly, this rural shelter is constantly over-crowded and has a long history as a “high-kill” facility. We try to assist them whenever possible by rescuing animals off 'death row' and giving them a second chance at life!

If and when our programs expand, we can lessen the burden at the county shelter. This would assure more animals survive to rescue and then to adoption, while we continue to raise community awareness.

In general, we want to have greater impact on the people and animals in our community. For example, our board is discussing a plan to help homebound seniors with pet food, or distributing pet food to low-income families. Projects such as these would potentially lower the number of animals currently being surrendered to the shelter.

Low-cost or **free** spay and neuter would help get at the root cause of the animal over-population problems. These are possible programs Friends of Animals could organize and accomplish with expansion.

Results expected Example #2:

Additional funds for an isolation building would save the lives of more companion animals and increase our overall number of adoptions. We want to help more in need. If animals come to us sick, we fully expect to heal them, unlike some shelters. This can be better accomplished if healthy animals do not come in contact with sick animals. Our vet has suggested two weeks of isolation prior to integrating the animals.

Use of this special isolation building would allow us to rescue more animals which otherwise will go to the local animal shelter. This shelter is constantly over-crowded and has a sad, long history as a “high-kill” facility. We try to assist them whenever possible.

With an isolation building, we would be prepared to take sick and injured animals which other rescues and shelters cannot currently accommodate.

Timetable for implementation

Examples:

Our efforts to improve the lives of animals, both wild and domestic, within Lilac County are on-going. Everyday brings new challenges and new heartbreaking requests for help. The steady stream of needy animals shows no signs of slowing. The grant is needed immediately and would be put to good use within 2008-09.

We expect to hold our first low-cost spay and neuter clinic in six months time and continue twice a year thereafter. Thus these funds are needed by October of 2008 for the first scheduled clinic.

Our goal is to hold the animal awareness event to coincide with our annual town festival held every year in early October. The town population doubles during that long weekend and we can reach more children ages 5-10 during that time. We'll need the funding by early October of 2008.

Questions or problems?

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