# Securing Grants for Animal Welfare

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Minnesota Animal Welfare Conference May 25, 2023



### Agenda

- Funding for Animal Welfare Overview
- Grants Cycle Step-by-Step
- Breakout: Needs Statement
  Writing Exercise
- Funder's Perspective (NTSI Grants Description)
- Where to start: Key Resources
- Takeaways & Q&A



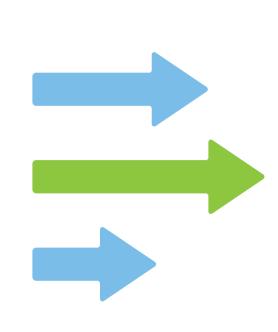
## Fundraising Plan

Organization's priorities

Revenue goals

Specific funding needs

Internal capacity assessment





Fundraising strategies and opportunities



### **Revenue Diversification**



Foundations, Corporations, & Government

#### Tactics

Events (bake sale, auction, gala, etc.)

Direct mail campaigns

Online and e-giving

Individual major donor cultivation

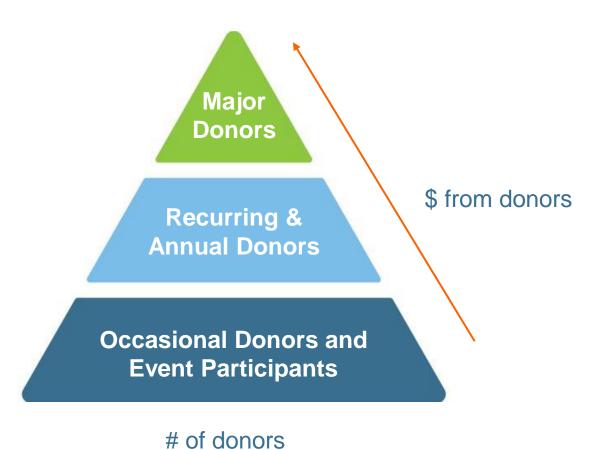
Formal grant process

Peer-to-peer fundraising

Corporate solicitation



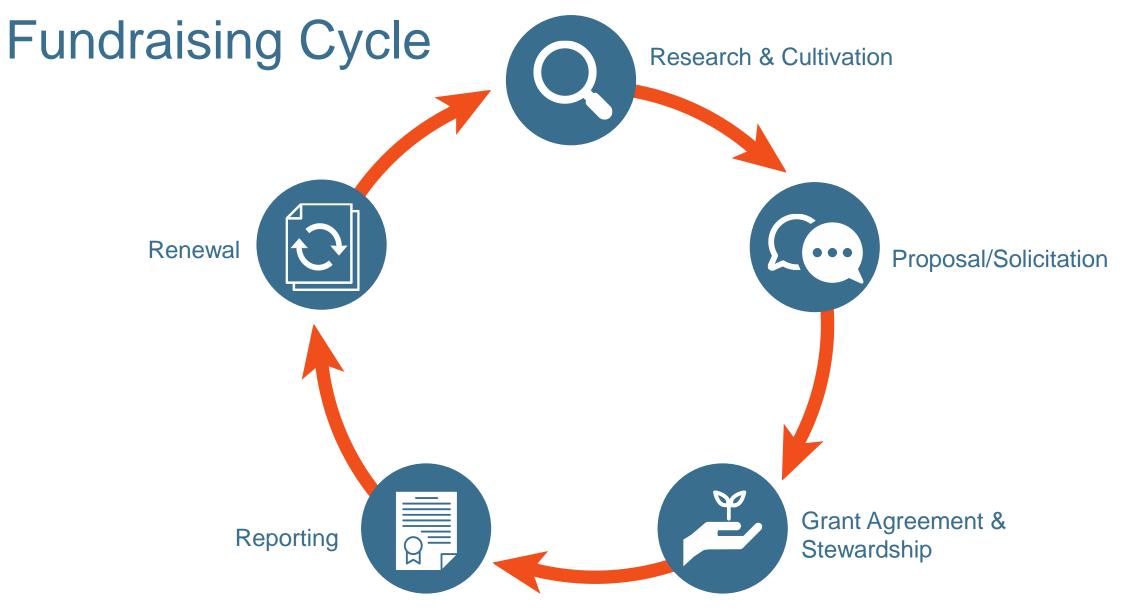
## **Individual Giving Basics**



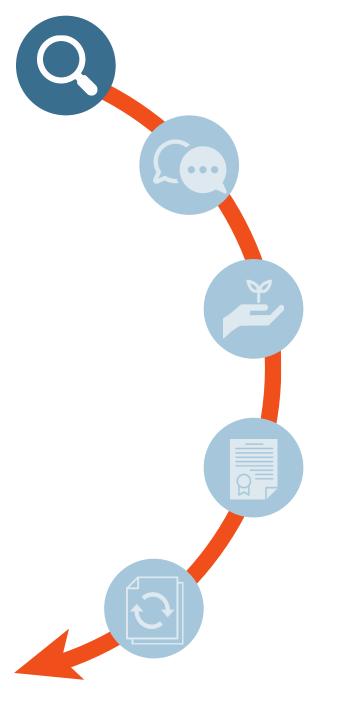
#### **Best Practices:**

- Ask for support
- Thank donors
- Share impact of giving









### **Research & Cultivation**

### Finding the right match

#### **Create Preliminary Prospect List**

Identify prospects through your network, public listings, and research tools like Foundation Directory Online

#### Refine your List through Research

- Regional focus
- Donation amount
- Program priorities
- Proposal deadlines
- □ Funding timeframe
- Grant Eligibility



### **Research & Cultivation**

#### **Initial Contact**

#### Cultivation

- Letter of Inquiry
- Phone calls/emails
- Meetings
- Newsletters/Events
- Program updates/press





### **Standard Proposal**

#### Components:

- Cover Letter
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget
- Budget Narrative
- Attachments

# Adhere to guidelines and plan your time!





Introduction/Executive Summary Summarizes the entire proposal

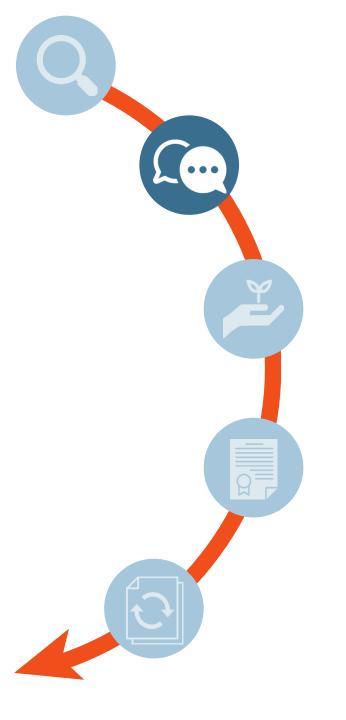
**Needs Statement** Case for support; why is this program necessary

**Program Description** Details of how the program will be implemented

**Outcomes/Goals** Measurable outcomes and evaluation method

**Organization History** Staffing, history, and sustainability of the organization Proposal Narrative





#### Always Customize to Your Audience

#### Other Writing Tips:

- Illustrate need: Use real examples/animal stories that add interest
  and demonstrate the impact of your work
- Use concrete metrics and goals
- Use data and/or research
- Use concise, clear language
- Always edit and proofread



### Breakout

Needs Statement: why is your program necessary?

- 1. Describe the problem you are addressing
- 2. Impact Example
- 3. How does your program present a solution?



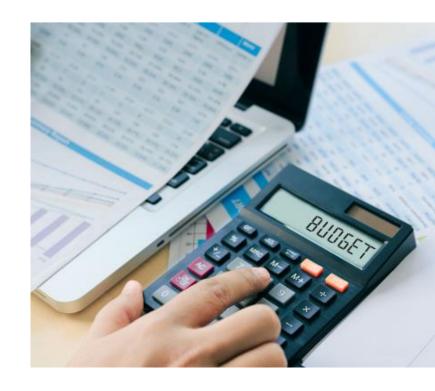


#### **Standard Attachments**

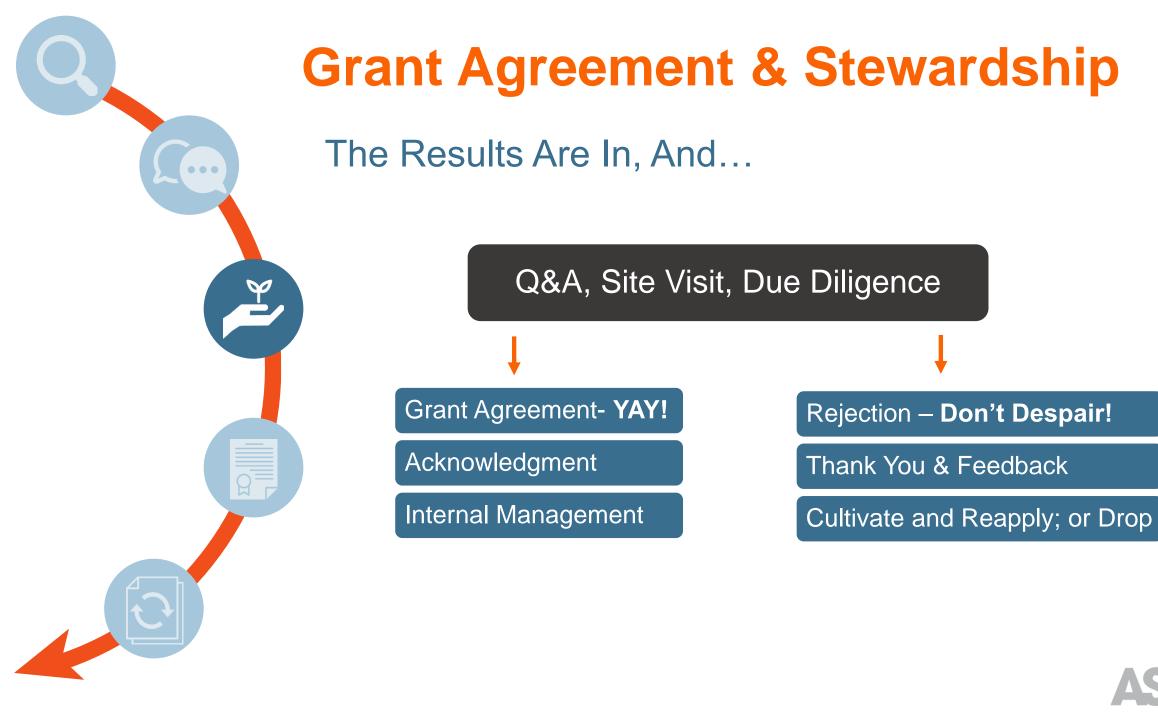
- IRS letter of determination
- W9 form
- 990
- List of Board of Directors
- Staff bios
- Program "extras"
  - Stories, evaluation, etc.

#### **Financial Documents**

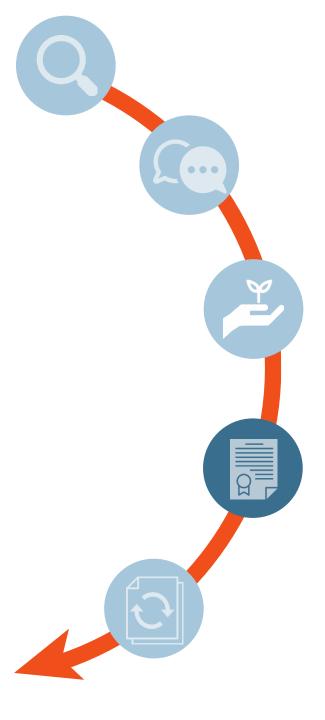
- Current year's budget
- Previous year's budget vs. actuals
- Most recent audited financials











# Reporting

Opportunity to demonstrate the impact of giving and build long-term funder partnerships

- Formal reporting
- Informal updates
- Track deadlines and plan ahead



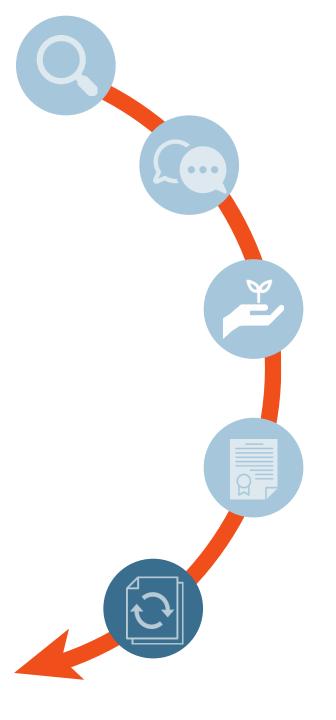
The ASPCA is committed to preventing and addressing animal cruelty nationwi



ASPCA SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES Report Prepared for XYZ Foundation | March 2023

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### Renewal

- Plan early for renewal
- Not all funders will renew
- Determine format of renewal
- Prepare for narrative and budget updates
- Don't be afraid to ask for more

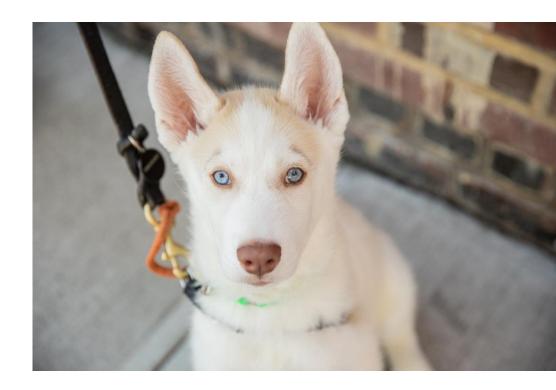




### **Funder's Perspective**



- Think of your proposal as a business case the better thought out it is, the better you'll do in the process
- Storytelling is important but don't forget to make a detailed, logical description of your program with metrics
- Take advantage of available information, webinars, etc.
- Show that the budget is well thought-through
- Looking for a track record of at least 2-3 years to demonstrate ability to manage funding and programs





## ASPCA Grant Example

- NTSI provides grants and support to AWOs across 7 Northern Tier states
  - Alaska, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Washington and Wisconsin
- Relationship-building through phone calls/meetings, virtual and in-person site visits
- NTSI Grant Requirements:
  - SAC Reporting
  - Vaccinations on intake
  - ASV Guidelines
- Stay in touch and share updates
- Plan for how work might continue beyond the grant term

# Northern Tier Shelter Initiative

#### 2023 NTSI Grant Categories

- Improve shelter operations operational elements to save more animals
- 2. Keeping people and pets together pet retention programs and services
- 3. Increase access to veterinary care for indigenous communities
- 4. Increase access to spay and neuter



### Key Takeaways

- Stewardship to share impact
- Diversified revenue
- Grant are supplemental revenue
- Grants require time and labor
- Internal record-keeping
- Ask for funding and thank donors!



### Grants and Fundraising Resources

#### Fundraising Information and AWO Funders

American Humane Association Animal Disaster Funding Animal Grantmakers Member Organizations Animal Sheltering – Grant Listings (HumanePro.org) ASPCAPro.org (Grants and Funders List) Foundation Directly Online (by Candid) Grants for Animal Welfare Nonprofits Grants for Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation Philanthropy News Digest – Animal Welfare RFPs

Charitypaws.com Chronicle of Philanthropy Maddie's Fund Minnesota Council of Nonprofits **Minnesota Council of Foundations** Petco Love Petfinder Foundation **PetSmart Charities PEDIGREE** Foundation The Lion's Share Blog





### Questions?

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