



## **News Release**

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### **Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP): A Cure, Collaboration, and More**

Lincoln, CA – Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) is highly known in the cat community. For decades, it was 100% fatal. Several years ago, Dr. Niels Pedersen at UC Davis, working with several other researchers, discovered a group of antiviral particles that can cure cats of FIP. Studies were done, word got out among cat owners and the cat community, and now, people are coming together to help cats with FIP.

FieldHaven Feline Center created FIP Stars to help guide cat owners to treatment options while providing emotional and logistical support. Since January 2021, FieldHaven has been involved in treating more than 30 cats and kittens with incredible success. Recently, FieldHaven teamed up with ZenByCat to launch an awareness campaign to inform cat owners and veterinarians that FIP does not have to be a death sentence.

“There is a treatment that is often successful, there are ways to get medication and there are fundraising options to help cover the cost,” said Joy Smith, co-founder and executive director for FieldHaven. “ZenByCat has been on the forefront of raising funds for research and treatment for years. Now that treatment, while not without challenge, is becoming more mainstream. With a collaboration of ZenByCat and FieldHaven, we can combine efforts to get the message out. We also work closely with FIP Warriors® 5.0, who have been essential in helping us treat kittens at FieldHaven. We do not want to lose cats simply because cat owners or veterinarians don’t know about the treatment, or skeptical of it. We are going to do something about it.”

FIP is caused by a mutated feline enteric coronavirus (FeCV). \* This coronavirus is very common among cats and typically harmless. Most cats will eventually resolve the infection on their own, seeing only common cold symptoms, and will otherwise have normal, healthy lives. In a small percentage of cats, however, this coronavirus will mutate into FIP, and it’s hard to diagnose and often strikes without warning.

“ZenByCat is thrilled to be working with FieldHaven to help get the word out that FIP is a treatable disease AND that more research is still needed. ZenByCat remains focused on getting more humans to give small monthly donations to fund the continuing FIP research working on better drugs, a definitive test for FIP, and a vaccine,” said Peter Cohen, founder of ZenByCat. “We also help people find treatment working with FIP Warriors® 5.0 and now FieldHaven and encourage people to share their FIP Warrior's stories including fundraising links on our website. While many difficulties remain, FIP is no longer the death sentence it was just a few short years ago.”

## **Resources**

[FieldHaven FIP Stars](#)

[ZenByCat](#)

[Does Your Cat Have FIP?](#)

[FIP Warriors® 5.0](#)

[Sock It FIP](#)

[Cone of Shame Podcast: Is there really a cure for FIP? -](#)

By Andy Roark DVM MS March 2022

[UC Davis General FIP Resources](#)

[The Kitten Lady: I'm treating my cat for FIP](#) January 2022\*

\*FeCV is not the same as SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Though both coronaviruses, they are quite genetically different. Source: [Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine](#)

Founded in 2003, FieldHaven Feline Center is a progressive nonprofit animal welfare organization who offers innovative solutions for cats and people in need while enhancing their lives. They operate a free-roaming cat adoption facility, thrift store marketplace and spay/neuter clinic. For more, visit [FieldHaven.org](#).