



### **Announcing the Bria Fund Cures for Every Cat Virtual Raffle**

Can you imagine a world where all cats with FIP are Cured? Winn Can!

Having cats in our lives is an amazing and rewarding experience for so many reasons. Which cat parent isn't happy to be so loved by one, several, or a whole bunch of cats? They are worth a paw in the face waking us up because they are hungry, being slept on or sleeping so close to us, we can't move, and all the meows of hungry fur kids. Their need for us and our need for them complete our lives. For many of us, this love with its potential for joy and long and happy memories was stolen from us because of FIP. Because of the elasticity of our hearts after FIP, other kittens and older kitties join our families and are loved and cherished. Regardless of the years that pass, our special FIP angels are never replaced and remain missed forever. Because of the experience of losing Bria to FIP on April 19, 2005, ending FIP remains the biggest priority in my life. Thanks to so many of you in our extended FIP Family, amazing progress continues to

occur. You helped the Bria Fund support 21 important FIP studies leading to so much more known about FIP, better tests, and to the current research indicating that potentially some cats with FIP may have been cured of FIP!

Continued funding of the Bria Fund and FIP research is more important than ever. This time of year, we usually hold our annual raffle, the biggest fundraiser each year. We are not holding this event in 2017. We are working on simplifying the process for 2018. In lieu of a physical raffle, starting now until the end of September, we are holding the Cures for Every FIP Cat Virtual Raffle. If you have ever donated a prize for a Bria Fund raffle or were planning on donating a prize this year, please make a donation instead. If you have ever donated and received raffle tickets to win prizes, please just donate. If you have done either but have lost a kitty yourself, or know someone who lost a fur angel to FIP, please donate. If you just love cats and animals, we need your donations too. Now, with cures in sight, it is now the time for you to reach out to friends, family, vets, and other cat and animal lovers to ask them to donate and help cure all types of FIP.

Donating to the Bria Fund is unique because every cent donated is only used for FIP research. Winn takes no administrative fees. Universities can take up to 50% of research donations for overhead, not actual research. Bria Fund dollars cannot be used for overhead, only research. With your help, the Bria Fund will award two additional FIP studies this fall and additional ones in 2018. Researchers receive an average of \$35,000 per study. Winn isn't limited by not enough researchers working on a cure or other critical FIP areas, only by the availability of donor dollars needed to financially support worthy proposals.

For this virtual raffle, we selected Luna to demonstrate the progress being made in curing FIP and eventually ending it. She is a Savannah, currently living well with FIP, and potentially cured because of a drug initially developed for humans. The Bria Fund helped support the initial testing of this drug and a few others from the same human pharmaceutical company. The researcher speculates that there may be other drugs already developed that may also be effective in stopping the FIP virus. Finding these drugs will take time and money.

Unlike most raffles, making a donation of any amount makes you and all the cats who will benefit winners! Let's make it bigger and better than the Bria Fund Raffle last year. Together we can cure and will end FIP!