



FieldHaven Feline Rescue

Mission

Educating our community on responsible pet ownership while providing safe haven for cats and kittens in transition to new lives in permanent homes.

Spay Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) Program Results - 2005

Background and History: FieldHaven introduced SNAP in early 2005 upon being awarded a grant by the Community Foundation of Lincoln. The purpose of the grant was to use the funds to assist the residents of Lincoln with spaying and neutering of feral and stray cats and providing education on the importance of addressing the issue of animal overpopulation.

Program Highlights: FieldHaven provided the funds to spay and neuter the cats using local veterinarians and the Animal Spay and Neuter Clinic in Auburn. Adult cats were also vaccinated for rabies. Residents were given assistance with the logistics of getting the target animals into the program. FieldHaven loaned traps and cages while volunteers provided education on trapping and safe handling of the cats. Volunteers also provided transportation to the veterinarian or clinic when necessary. The FieldHaven shelter acted as a triage center where cats could be dropped off for transportation and then picked up for recovery. Assistance with recovery was provided on a space-available basis. We encouraged releasing the animals back into their familiar environment but when this was not possible we provided education and assistance on relocation to a safe area (usually area ranches and farms).

When a cat came through SNAP that was suitable for adoption (not feral) FieldHaven provided education and assistance for re-homing the cat after spaying/neutering. When space was available the cat came into the shelter to be adopted as a FieldHaven cat. If no space was available we provided assistance to the caregiver by posting the cat on the FieldHaven website and providing space at outreach adoption events (eg, PetSmart).

Results: The program which ran through December 2005 provided spay/neuter surgery for 159 cats; 92 females and 67 males. Additionally, education was provided by counseling caregivers on the management of stray and feral colonies. Youth education was provided through FieldHaven's youth volunteer program and hosting educational sessions at the shelter for several scouting groups.

Impact: Based on the accepted formula that each female cat will produce 2.8 surviving kittens in each litter at the rate of 2 litters per year, the SNAP has essentially prevented hundreds of unwanted births. The table below provides statistics on the prevented births over a 3 year timeline. Surviving female kittens are factored into the statistics¹.

Female cats	Potential Year 1 Births	Potential Year 2 Births	Potential Year 3 Births
92	515.2	2,596.6	13,086.9

Conclusion: All of us at Fieldhaven are proud of the success of this program. The community support and appreciation is demonstrated by the numerous letters of gratitude we have received from program recipients. Our thanks to the Community Foundation of Lincoln for making SNAP 2005 possible.

¹ Assumes 75% of producing females survive and 15% of kittens from the previous year survive to sexual maturity, are female and remain part of the colony

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Here's What They're Saying About FieldHaven's SNAP! Letters from Lincoln residents who have benefited from SNAP

A spraying, growling, aggressive unaltered Tomcat was a neighborhood nuisance.....We trapped him and took him to FieldHaven for help in getting him neutered.our neighborhood peace was restored.

Margie and Jan M

Over the past 7 years we've had numerous pregnant female cats and/or kittens dropped off on our property. We have always paid to have the cats spayed and neutered and have found homes for them. However, due to serious financial difficulties when a feral female that was very pregnant showed up on our property we were very concerned as to how we were going to be able to care for her and the kittens. I can't tell you how pleased we were when FieldHaven was able to help us!

Donna K.

We just wanted to thank the FieldHaven crew for helping us with all the cats that have "adopted" us. We live on 5 acres and we have cats show up at feeding time that we've never seen. Most are pregnant females. Our cat population had ballooned to just over 20 when we learned of FieldHaven. FieldHaven not only arranged for spaying and neutering of kittens and adults but they also found some of them new homes. We couldn't be more pleased. Without FieldHaven's support we don't know what we would have done...

Ron and Cathy S.

...FieldHaven Feline Rescue is performing an important service to the community. I live in the country and someone dropped off a cat that had kittens in my barn. To neuter them all would take close to \$500. To allow them to reproduce would not be a responsible choice, ...We are on a fixed income and lack the funds. Enter FieldHaven who took care of the problem for us.

Brooke T.

....Thank God for FieldHaven... they are a great part of our community and have helped us more than anyone knows.

Glory B.

Thank you for helping to decrease the thousands of animals being "put down" yearly in our community.

Jen and Ray P.

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