



MEDIA ADVISORY

Media Contact:

Lynne Shackelford
Habitat for Humanity of Spartanburg
(864) 316-1763
lynne.shackelford@habitatspartanburg.org

Habitat Spartanburg Earns Charity Navigator's Coveted 4-Star Rating for Fourth Consecutive Year

Spartanburg, S.C. – Habitat for Humanity of Spartanburg's strong financial health and commitment to transparency and accountability have earned Charity Navigator's highest rating of four stars for the fourth consecutive year. Charity Navigator is America's largest independent charity evaluator.

Habitat Spartanburg received a score of 98.23 – on a 100-point scoring matrix – making the nonprofit among the top performing Habitat affiliates in the nation. Only two other Habitat affiliates in the nation – and none in South Carolina – scored higher.

Habitat Spartanburg is one of only 31 charities in South Carolina to earn the 4-star rating.

Only 20 percent of the charities rated by Charity Navigator have received at least 4 consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating Habitat Spartanburg exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in the area of affordable housing.

"Habitat for Humanity of Spartanburg's fourth 4-Star Rating sets it apart from its peers and demonstrates its trustworthiness to the public," according to Michael Thatcher, President and CEO of Charity Navigator. "Only a margin of charities rated by Charity Navigator receive the distinction of having four consecutive Four-Star Ratings. This adds Habitat Spartanburg to a preeminent group of charities working to overcome our world's most pressing challenges. Based on this distinction, people can trust that their donations are going to a financially responsible and ethical charity when they decide to support Habitat Spartanburg."

"Habitat Spartanburg is honored to be recognized as a continuing 4-Star Charity by Charity Navigator, and to be among the highest scoring Habitat for Humanity affiliates in the United States," said Lee Close, Executive Director of Habitat Spartanburg. "In these days when people have concerns surrounding the credibility of many institutions, it is enormously valuable to have an independent, third party agency validating the care with which we operate and the care in which we utilize funds donated by individuals, corporations, faith institutions, and foundations. At Habitat Spartanburg, we take our responsibility very seriously and are extremely grateful to receive this recognition."

Since 2002, using objective analysis, Charity Navigator has awarded only the most fiscally responsible organizations a Four-star Rating. In 2011, Charity Navigator added 17 metrics focused on governance and ethical practices as well as measurers of openness, to its rating methodology. Charity Navigator reviews all nonprofit organizations that have more than \$1 Million in net revenue for two consecutive years, have been in operation for at least seven years and have at least \$500,000 in public support, which includes grants and corporate gifts. Charity Navigator uses various metrics to determine scoring including a review of the organization's financial health and sustainability and accountability and transparency metrics.

To use Charity Navigator's free searchable database, visit www.charitynavigator.org.