



## MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE EARNS 13<sup>TH</sup> COVETED 4-STAR RATING FROM CHARITY NAVIGATOR

**MIAMI** – Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired’s strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency have earned it a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America’s largest independent charity evaluator. This is the 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive time Miami Lighthouse has earned this top distinction placing it in the 99th percentile of the charities in the U.S. rated by Charity Navigator.

Miami Lighthouse is also among the elite 67 charities that have attained perfect scores for Financial Health as well as Accountability & Transparency resulting in an overall score of 100. Approximately 9,000 charities are evaluated each year by Charity Navigator with less than 1% achieving a perfect overall score of 100. Charity Navigator states that organizations achieving this exceptional score execute their missions in a fiscally responsible way while adhering to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities.

The 4-star rating adds to numerous awards and accomplishments achieved by Miami Lighthouse in 2020. Accolades include winning of one of the top awards in public relations, the 2020 *PRWeek* Award for Best in the Nonprofit Category with its “Seeing 2020 Clearly” campaign for its analysis of all presidential candidates’ websites, which assessed their accessibility for those who are blind and visually impaired; publishing in the *British Journal of Visual Impairment*, an archival, peer-reviewed journal article, “Bringing low-vision assessments and interventions to underserved seniors affected by age-related eye disease;” and earning a Gold Seal of Transparency from GuideStar USA, a national nonprofit reporting service.

According to Michael Thatcher, President & CEO of Charity Navigator. “Miami Lighthouse belongs to a preeminent group of charities working to overcome our world’s most pressing challenges. Based on its 4-star rating, people can trust that their donations are going to a financially responsible and ethical charity when they decide to support Miami Lighthouse.”

“We are very proud to have earned 13 consecutive 4-star ratings, the highest rating possible, from Charity Navigator,” said Miami Lighthouse President and CEO Virginia Jacko. “This achievement confirms our organization’s 90-year commitment to responsible financial management and dedication to the highest degree of charitable responsibility to our donors while delivering outstanding educational and rehabilitation training for our program participants.”

Founded in 1930, Miami Lighthouse is the oldest and largest private agency in Florida assisting persons of all ages who are blind and visually impaired. Today, the agency serves annually more than 25,000 program participants with an array of educational offerings and services that enable blind and visually impaired persons to achieve independence. For more information about Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, visit [MiamiLighthouse.org](http://MiamiLighthouse.org), or call 305-856-4176.

Miami Lighthouse's rating and other information about charitable giving are available free of charge on [www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org). Charity Navigator is the largest charity evaluator in America and its website attracts more visitors than all other charity rating groups combined. The organization helps guide intelligent giving by evaluating the Financial Health and Accountability & Transparency of more than 9,000 charities.

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