

CdLS Foundation earns coveted 4-star rating from Charity Navigator

Avon, CT (June 25, 2016) — The Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) Foundation earned a 4-star rating for sound fiscal management practices and commitment to accountability and transparency from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. This is the fifth consecutive time that the CdLS Foundation has earned this top distinction.

"Because of the CdLS Foundation's transparency and strong governance, donors can give confidently to help fulfill our mission in helping families across the country affected by CdLS gain knowledge and hope," said Kelly Brown, Acting Executive Director, CdLS Foundation. "Our fifth consecutive 4-star Charity Navigator rating demonstrates to our supporters that we take our financial accountability very seriously."

On June 1, 2016, Charity Navigator upgraded their methodology for rating each charity's' financial health. These enhancements further substantiate the financial health of their 4-star charities. The goal was to develop a set of financial rating metrics that meet the needs of both donors and charities while remaining consistent with our initial unbiased, objective, and data-driven approach to rating charities.

"Only a quarter of charities rated by Charity Navigator receive the distinction of our 4-star rating," said Michael Thatcher, President & CEO of Charity Navigator. "This adds The CdLS Foundation to a preeminent group of charities working to overcome our world's most pressing challenges."

For more information about the CdLS Foundation or to make a donation, call 800-753-2357 or visit www.cdlsusa.org.

About CdLS

Cornelia de Lange Syndrome occurs in about 1 in 10,000 births. An estimated 20,000 people in the U.S. have CdLS, but remain undiagnosed and/or without support services. Individuals with CdLS range from mildly to severely affected, though most have similar physical characteristics including small size, hands and feet; thin eyebrows that meet in the middle; long eyelashes; an upturned nose; and thin, downturned lips. Medical problems include GERD, bowel obstruction, hearing loss, and congenital heart defects. Early diagnosis and intervention are essential to ensure proper management of related medical issues.

About the Foundation

Founded in 1981, the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation is a national family support organization that exists to ensure early and accurate diagnosis of CdLS, promote research into the causes and manifestations of the syndrome, and help people with a diagnosis of CdLS and their families make informed decisions throughout their lifetime.

About Charity Navigator

Charity Navigator, www.charitynavigator.org, 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 8,000 charities. Charity Navigator accepts no advertising or donations from the organizations it evaluates, ensuring unbiased evaluations, nor does it charge the public for this trusted data. As a result, Charity Navigator, a 501 (c) (3) public charity itself, depends on support from individuals, corporations and foundations that believe it provides a much-needed service to America's charitable givers. Charity Navigator, can be reached directly by telephone at (201) 818-1288, or by mail at 139 Harristown Road, Suite 101, Glen Rock, N.J., 07452.

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