



CdLS Foundation

Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation, Inc.
Reaching Out, Providing Help, Giving Hope

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Avon Nonprofit Achieves Highest Rating from Charity Navigator

Avon, CT (December 3, 2012)— The Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) Foundation achieved its second, consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.

"We are honored to receive a four star rating for the second year in a row," said Marie Concklin-Malloy, CdLS Foundation executive director. "We constantly strive to remain a fiscally responsible organization, while increasing the capacity and outreach of our programs to assist families around the country."

Receiving the coveted four out of a possible four stars points to the Foundation's adherence to strong governance and other best practices that minimize the possibility of unethical actions and consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way.

In his letter to the CdLS Foundation, Charity Navigator's President and CEO Ken Berger noted, "Only 17 percent of the charities we rate have received at least two consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation outperforms most other charities in America. This 'exceptional' designation from Charity Navigator differentiates the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust."

Charity Navigator provides information on thousands of charities nationwide, giving donors greater confidence in the charitable choices they make. Receiving four stars indicates the CdLS Foundation is respected by its peers and demonstrates to the public it continues to be worthy of their trust.

For more information about the CdLS Foundation or to make a donation, call the CdLS Foundation at 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. Some individuals have limb differences, including missing fingers or arms. Common medical problems include GERD, bowel obstruction, hearing loss, and congenital heart defects. Early diagnosis and intervention is 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.

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