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YMCA EARNS FOUR-STAR RATING FOR SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Colorado Springs, CO - The YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region's strong commitment to accountability and transparency have earned it a four-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator.

This is the seventh consecutive time that the Y has earned this top distinction. Only 8% of Charity Navigator's rated organizations have received a four-star rating for seven consecutive years.

"The Y's exceptional four-star rating sets it apart from its peers and demonstrates its trustworthiness to the public," according to Michael Thatcher, President & CEO of Charity Navigator. "Only a quarter of charities rated by Charity Navigator receive the distinction of our four-star rating. This adds the Y 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 the Y."

Since 2002, using objective analysis, Charity Navigator has awarded only the most fiscally responsible organizations a 4-star rating. In 2011, Charity Navigator added 17 metrics, focused on governance and ethical practices as well as measures of openness, to its ratings methodology. These Accountability & Transparency metrics, which account for 50 percent of a charity's overall rating, reveal which charities operate in accordance with industry best practices and whether they are open with their donors and stakeholders.

"It's important our donors trust that we're using their donations wisely to accomplish the Y's mission," said Boyd Williams, President & CEO of the YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region. "Our four-star Charity Navigator rating demonstrates to our supporters our good governance and financial accountability."

The Y's rating and other information about charitable giving are available free of charge on www.charitynavigator.org.

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.

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