



MEDIA ALERT

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For Immediate Release

High Plains Food Bank Earns Coveted Charity Navigator 4-Star Rating

AMARILLO, TEXAS – July 5, 2019 – High Plains Food Bank’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 eighth consecutive time that High Plains Food Bank has earned this top distinction. Currently, only two Amarillo non-profits carry this designation.

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. On June 1, 2016, we upgraded our methodology for rating each charity’s financial health with CN 2.1. These enhancements further substantiates the financial health of our four star charities.

“High Plains Food Bank’s exceptional 4-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 4-star rating. This adds High Plains Food Bank 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 High Plains Food Bank.”

“It’s important our donors trust that we’re using their donations wisely to alleviate hunger in the Texas Panhandle,” said Zack Wilson, executive director for HPFB. “A Charity Navigator 4-star rating demonstrates to our supporters our good governance and financial accountability. We take pride in being responsible stewards of every dollar entrusted in us and put 95-cents of every dollar toward food and feeding programs.”

HPFB’s rating and other information about charitable giving are available free of charge on www.charitynavigator.org. More-detailed information about HPFB’s rating is available to Charity Navigator site visitors who become registered users, another free service.

For more information, or media interviews, please contact: Tina Brohlin, Communications & Marketing Manager, 806-350-1435, or tina@hpfb.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. 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.

About High Plains Food Bank

High Plains Food Bank's mission is to alleviate hunger in the Texas Panhandle. HPFB secures, processes, stores and distributes food to more than 190 partner agencies, across the top 29 counties in Texas. These food pantries provide a network to provide food assistance directly to the 1 in 7 local people who struggle with food insecurity, including 1 in 5 children. In 2018, HPFB distributed 8.25 million pounds of food, an amount equal to the all-time record set in 2017.

To combat food insecurity and improve the overall health of clients we serve, HPFB provides a variety of community programs, including: Kids Cafe, Direct Mobile Distribution, a senior adult food program (CSFP), and nutrition education through The Garden at High Plains Food Bank. HPFB can also help individuals with applying for SNAP, CHIP, and Medicaid. In addition to fighting hunger and supporting better health, food banking decreases waste by distributing food that would otherwise go uneaten to people who need it. *High Plains Food Bank is an equal opportunity provider.

About Feeding America

Feeding America® is the largest hunger-relief organization in the United States. Through a network of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries and meal programs, we provide meals to more than 46 million people each year. Feeding America also supports programs that prevent food waste and improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Visit www.feedingamerica.org, find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.

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