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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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 **Good Shepherd Food Bank Receives a 4-Star Rating from Charity Navigator**

**Auburn, ME –** Charity Navigator, America’s largest and most-utilized independent evaluator of charities has awarded Good Shepherd Food Bank its prestigious 4-star rating for good governance, sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.

Charity Navigator helps charitable givers make intelligent giving decisions by providing information on more than five thousand charities nationwide and by evaluating their financial health. It calculates each charity’s score based upon several broad criteria, including how much is spent per dollar raised, what percentage of funds goes to programs vs. administrative and fund-raising expenses, and the organization’s long-term financial health. It then assigns a rating from one to four, with four being the best rating.

“We are honored to receive Charity Navigator’s highest rating”, said Kristen Miale, President of Good Shepherd Food Bank. “This distinction reflects our accountability to all our constituencies and our commitment to the best practices in fiscal management that our donors expect and deserve. I am especially pleased that prospective donors who review our Charity Navigator listing will learn that $.95 cents of every dollar given to the Food Bank goes directly to program support.”

**About Good Shepherd Food Bank**

As the largest hunger relief organization in Maine, Good Shepherd Food Bank provides for Mainers facing hunger by distributing nutritious food to 600 partner agencies across the state, including food pantries, meal sites, and youth programs. Together with its network, the Food Bank leads a statewide effort to combat the root causes of hunger by engaging in advocacy, nutrition education, and strategic partnerships. In 2014, the Food Bank distributed more than 17.5 million meals to families, children, and seniors in need throughout Maine. Website:  [www.feedingmaine.org](http://www.feedingmaine.org); Phone:  (207) 782-3554; Facebook: [www.facebook.com/feedingmaine](file:///%5C%5COptimus-1%5CStaff_Data%5CUsers%5Cmglenn%5CTalking%20Points%5Cwww.facebook.com%5Cfeedingmaine); Twitter: [www.twitter.com/feedingmaine](http://www.twitter.com/feedingmaine).