



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**LIFTFUND NAMED ONE OF THE BEST NONPROFITS  
IN THE U.S. BY CHARITY NAVIGATOR**

***FOUR-STAR RATING IS FOURTH IN A ROW FOR THE NATION'S LARGEST MICROLENDER***

**SAN ANTONIO** – LiftFund, the nation's largest nonprofit small business lender, today announced it has received its fourth consecutive designation as a four-star nonprofit organization by Charity Navigator – America's premier charity evaluator that rates organizations on such criteria as accountability, transparency and financial reporting.

These ratings help potential donors make informed decisions about charitable giving.

"It is an honor to receive this award four years in a row," said LiftFund President and CEO Janie Barrera. "Receiving this award speaks volumes about the excellent work we do to meet the highest of industry standards. LiftFund values the funds entrusted to us by our donors, which ultimately help our small business clients achieve entrepreneurial success."

"We are proud to announce that LiftFund has earned our four-star rating for the fourth consecutive year. Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that LiftFund adheres to good governance and other best practices," said Charity Navigator's Founder and Chairman of the Board John Dugan. "Only 8% of the charities we rate have received at least four consecutive four-star evaluations, indicating that LiftFund outperforms most other charities in America. This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator differentiates LiftFund from its peers and demonstrates to the public its worthy of their trust."

Dugan added that major financial publications, including Forbes, Business Week, and Kiplinger's Financial Magazine, have "profiled and celebrated" Charity Navigator's unique method of apply data-driven analysis to the charitable sector.

Barrera said that since its inception in 1994, LiftFund – a micro and small business lender proving loans from \$500 to \$5.5 million – has grown from one small office in San Antonio to 21 offices in eight-states. The organization has made more than 16,000 in loans totaling more than \$185 million. The organization is currently in the midst of expanding its eight-state footprint, adding five more states to its market area. The new states will be Florida, South Carolina, Georgia, Oklahoma, and New Mexico.

**About Charity Navigator**

Founded in 2001, Charity Navigator is America's largest and most-utilized independent evaluator of charities. The organization helps charitable givers make intelligent giving decisions

by providing information on over 5,000 charities and by evaluating the financial health of each of these charities. By guiding intelligent giving, Charity Navigator aims to advance a more efficient and responsive philanthropic marketplace, in which givers and the charities they support work in tandem to overcome the nation's most persistent challenges. Charity Navigator is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization under the Internal Revenue Code and does not accept any contributions from any charities it evaluates.

### **About LiftFund**

Established in 1994 in San Antonio, as Accion Texas Inc., LiftFund is a financial and business-support service organization that helps entrepreneurs strengthen their businesses, stabilize and increase their incomes, create employment and contribute to the economic revitalization of their communities. LiftFund has the nation's largest microlender portfolio and is committed to providing capital to entrepreneurs who do not have access to loans from commercial sources. Since its inception, LiftFund has made nearly 16,000 loans totaling more than \$185 million. LiftFund operates in eight states – Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee and Texas. To learn more about LiftFund, go to [www.lifffund.com](http://www.lifffund.com) .