

The American Ireland Fund is recognized with the top 4-Star Rating for Efficiency and Transparency in Assisting the Irish Not-for-Profit Sector.

Tuesday April 14, 2015

For the fourth consecutive year, The American Ireland Fund has received a coveted 4-out-of-4 star rating for rigorous fiscal management, transparency and governance from Charity Navigator, America's premier charity evaluator. It places The American Ireland Fund in an elite group of only 8% of charities that have achieved the top rating for four consecutive years.

Commenting, President & CEO of The Worldwide Ireland Funds Kieran McLoughlin said:

“In the USA, not-for-profit bodies stand or fall on the basis of their transparency and governance. Donors quite rightly have full access to information on revenues, costs and impact. We are so grateful to our donors whose generosity made this rating possible and placed us in the top tier.”

As part of The Worldwide Ireland Funds, The American Ireland Fund is now one of the largest private funders of the not-for-profit sector across the island of Ireland. Their current *Promising Ireland* Campaign has raised close to \$200 million for charities serving Ireland and Irish communities abroad.

About The American Ireland Fund

The American Ireland Fund is part of The Worldwide Ireland Funds, a philanthropic network across 12 countries that has raised over \$490 million for worthy causes in Ireland and Irish causes around the world. It is the largest network of friends of Ireland dedicated to supporting programs of peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education and community development. Founded in 1976, The Worldwide Ireland Funds have benefited over 3,000 organizations. Funds raised are contributed by private sources - individuals, corporations and foundations.

In response to the severe downturn in the Irish economy, The Worldwide Ireland Funds launched the *Promising Ireland* Campaign in 2009 to raise \$100 million for charities experiencing an increased demand for their services at a time of a major reduction in resources. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of donors, the initial goal has been exceeded and the target has been doubled to now raise \$200 million. As a result, \$190 million of the Funds' total earnings since foundation have been raised during the six years of the Campaign. Over 650 outstanding projects and organizations have received support from the *Promising Ireland* Campaign.

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About Charity Navigator

Charity Navigator is the leading charity evaluator in America. *Forbes*, *Business Week*, and *Kiplinger's Financial Magazine*, among others, have profiled Charity Navigator's unique method of applying data-driven analysis to the charitable sector. Founded in 2001, Charity Navigator has become America's largest and most-utilized evaluator of charities. Charity Navigator's rating system examines two broad areas of a charity's performance; their Financial Health and their Accountability & Transparency. Their ratings show givers how efficiently they believe a charity will use their support today, how well it has sustained its programs and services over time and their level of commitment to good governance, best practices and openness with information.

All of Charity Navigator's analyses are publically available. It is estimated that last year Charity Navigator influenced approximately \$10 billion in charitable gifts.

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THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND



The American Ireland Fund has achieved the highest recognition for its financial management and corporate governance in the US and has been used as a role model for other international diaspora fundraising organizations.

We have achieved and maintained a 4 star out of 4 star status from Charity Navigator which is based upon Charity Navigator's detailed and independent review of our financial management and reporting structure as well as our corporate governance and transparency policies. Charity Navigator defines this as an "exceptional" designation, with only 8% of American charities having received four consecutive 4 star awards.

