



For Immediate Release

Contact: Ginger Allen
Senior Development Officer
689-6612
gallen@vimclinic.org

**Volunteers in Medicine Hilton Head Island Receives
Highest Rating from Charity Navigator**

Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, February 12, 2015 – Charity Navigator, the nation’s largest independent evaluator of charities, has awarded Volunteers in Medicine HHI 4-Stars, its highest and most prestigious rating. This designation is made on the basis of sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.

Charity Navigator works to help donors make intelligent giving decisions. They provide essential information so that donors can choose the charities that are most worthy of their donations. Charity Navigator calculates each charity’s score based upon several general criteria, including how much is spent on charitable programs per dollar raised, what percentage of funds goes to programs versus administrative and fundraising expenses, and the organization’s long-term financial health. This “exceptional” designation from Charity Navigator - helps demonstrate to the public that VIM is worthy of their trust and support.

“We work hard to harness the talents of our volunteers and use our donated funds wisely to meet the needs of our patients,” said Dr. Lisa Drakeman, VIM Board Chair. “We are honored that Charity Navigator has recognized our efforts with their highest rating.”

“This distinction reflects our good stewardship of charitable contributions and our accountability to all of our constituencies.” Added Dr. Ray Cox, VIM’s Executive Director, “VIM remains steadfastly committed to achieving mission-related results, to provide the healthcare needs for our medically underserved neighbors.”

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About Volunteers in Medicine Hilton Head Island

Volunteers in Medicine was established on Hilton Head Island in 1993 and now provides free medical, dental, mental health, vision and prescription drug care for those residents of the community who live and or work on Hilton Head or Daufuskie Island, earn less than 200% of federal poverty levels and are underinsured or uninsured. Last year, VIM provided care across more than 30,000 patient visits and is the model for 96 free health clinics throughout the country. Funding is through grants and donations. VIM neither seeks nor accepts government support.

More than 600 volunteer physicians, nurses, dentists, chiropractors, social workers and lay persons manage 23 medical specialties and five disease management clinics for those patients with chronic disease such as diabetes and hypertension.

Volunteers in Medicine Hilton Head Island is located at 15 Northridge Drive. For information call 843.689.6612 or visit www.vimclinic.org.