



For Immediate Release

GuideStar Statement Regarding the Wounded Warrior Project

Washington, D.C.—December 22, 2014—We understand that GuideStar’s data was used as reference in some recently published blogs and circulated email chains about the Wounded Warrior Project.

GuideStar is inaccurately attributed as saying “the Wounded Warrior Project might as well be run by the Mafia.” To be clear, GuideStar, nor any of its employees, said this quote. It is inaccurate and against our policy to comment on specific organizations.

Additionally, the author inaccurately states that GuideStar is “a group that investigates charities.” GuideStar does not investigate charities. We provide data and information to the public and allow them to use that information to make better educated decisions about the nonprofit sector.

Beyond these discrepancies, the author has used the data behind his overall assertion incorrectly. The statement that the Wounded Warrior Project “only used 3.5% of the money it received for the purpose intended,” fails to include the almost \$70 million that was used on direct program expenses that year. It should be noted the following year that spend increased to \$117 million.

Furthermore, GuideStar does not believe that so called overhead ratios are a fair proxy to judge the impact that a nonprofit organization has on advancing its mission. The amount spent on “administrative” versus “program” expenses has no correlation on the amount of impact that organization is having. And it’s the impact a charity makes that really matters.

GuideStar has asked the author to correct this statement ASAP.

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About GuideStar

GuideStar, www.guidestar.org, is the largest source of nonprofit information, connecting people and organizations with information on more than 1.8 million IRS-recognized nonprofits. Some 7 million people, including individual donors, nonprofit leaders, grantmakers, government officials, academic researchers, and the media, use GuideStar’s data every year to make intelligent decisions about the social sector. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit, GuideStar collects its information from the IRS, directly from nonprofits, and other partners in the nonprofit sector. GuideStar is a participant in the Combined Federal Campaign, CFC #75786.

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