



April 26, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

The Standards for Excellence Institute is an initiative dedicated to promoting the highest standards of ethics and accountability in nonprofit governance, management, and operations. As an operating division of Maryland Nonprofits, we serve nonprofits throughout the nation.

The Standards for Excellence Institute uses as its foundation the Standards for Excellence program, which includes a set of nonprofit best practices, divided into these categories:

- Mission, Strategy, and Evaluation
- Leadership: Board, Staff, and Volunteers
- Legal Compliance and Ethics
- Finance and Operations
- Resource Development
- Public Awareness, Engagement, and Advocacy

These best practices are documented in a code of conduct for nonprofits called the *Standards for Excellence: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector* (the Standards for Excellence code).

**The Standards for Excellence Institute attests that Touch Stones Financial Wellness Services has earned the *Standards basics recognition* under the *Standards for Excellence: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector*.**

Being recognized at the *basics* level demonstrates that Touch Stones Financial Wellness Services went through an application process, which included a review by Standards of Excellence Institute staff to verify that Touch Stones Financial Wellness Services has strong policies in place for good governance and legal compliance, and a well-defined mission with impactful programs.

If you have any questions about the Standards for Excellence Institute, or the accreditation process, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Coates Madsen" with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Amy Coates Madsen  
Standards for Excellence Institute, Director  
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