

**Candidate Response from:**

- Miles Ranger
- Running for: House District 84

From Miles Ranger, Maine House Candidate District 84 (Fairfield, Rome and Smithfield, Maine)

1. Please describe your personal and professional experiences with nonprofit organizations.

Non-profit organizations in Maine play a vital role in providing well needed services throughout the state. From 1987 through 1997 I was employed by a non-profit organization representing more than 6,000 members in Maine who voluntarily paid membership dues for the organization. It recieved absolutely no government subsidies and no one member paid more than \$1,000. It was a very rewarding experience to not only be a paid staffer, but to later be promoted into a management position with the organization.

I have also volunteered as a member of other various organizations and as a non-member in support of other organizations. My participation in non-profit organizations include various churches from Millinocket to Lisbon Falls; salvation army; political organizations; Rotary; Elks; sunshine kids; and police athletic league. To name all organizations and my participation in each would be lengthy.

On the whole, non-profits in Maine add to the value of being a Maine citizen and, as a member of those organizations it is a great feeling to give back to society and voluntarily join others in being a part of the solution rather than the problem.

2. Please provide specific ways in which, if elected, you would partner with and stengthen the nonprofit sector to achieve the goals of your campaign.

I would continue serving on the various non-profits that I currently serve. As a member of the legislature, I would have greater opportunities to serve many other organizations. Understanding the very needs of each individual organization is the key to being able to assist these organizations from a state legislative persepective. As one who has volunteered and been employed by non-profits, I have a background that will help highlight the genuine needs of the groups, their members and those that they serve.

Maine faces some great challenges in the immediate years ahead. State budget shortfalls have and may continue to reduce or eliminate funding for necessary and well needed programs serving Mainers. Folks may need to turn to non-profit groups at a greater degree than in years past to survive. Fortunately, the strength and will of Mainers will pull together to meet the needs of its people. I am confident in the current and future strength of Maine non-profits. As a state, we will need to push for greater funding and volunteerism of our vital non-profits.

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