Maine Association of Nonprofits Selects Jennifer Burns Gray as Director of Advocacy and Public Relations

Portland, ME – Maine Association of Nonprofits (MANP) is pleased to announce the selection of Jennifer Burns Gray as Director of Advocacy and Public Relations. Gray brings more than 20 years of experience as Maine Audubon’s Staff Attorney and Advocate.

“We are thrilled to bring Jennifer on board to lead our efforts to be a strong voice for Maine’s nonprofits,” said Jennifer Hutchins, MANP Executive Director. “She brings an extensive background in shaping public policy, strong relationships at the State House, and a wealth of experience bringing stakeholders with diverse perspectives together around a common cause.”

As Director of Advocacy and Public Relations, Gray will strengthen the collective voice of the nonprofit sector and increase awareness of its value and impact. She will work with and for Maine’s nonprofits, as well as forge partnerships across sectors, to inform and advocate for public policy that will ensure a thriving nonprofit sector, which is critical to addressing Maine’s present and future opportunities and challenges. “It is an honor to join the team at the Maine Association of Nonprofits,” said Gray. “Maine’s diverse nonprofit sector is essential to Maine’s economy and quality of life, and I look forward to bringing my skills and experience to support a broader range of issues and organization.”

MANP’s mission is to enrich the quality of community and personal life in Maine by strengthening the leadership, voice, and organizational effectiveness of our state’s nonprofits. The organization represents more than 800 nonprofit organizations from across Maine of all sizes and mission areas.

Gray is an active community volunteer, including committee involvement at her church and serving as a board member for numerous organizations, including GrowSmart Maine and Maine Conservation Voters. Gray received her Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science from Trinity College and earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Southern Maine School of Law.

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Since 1994, MANP has grown to become Maine’s comprehensive resource for the tools, knowledge, and connections nonprofits need to be effective and well-run. With a growing statewide membership of almost 800 nonprofit and 135 for-profit organizations, MANP advances the public profile of Maine nonprofits by highlighting their vital contribution to the quality of life in our state, connects people, organizations and resources from all sectors to foster collaborative problem solving, and strengthens nonprofits by providing management training and leadership development programs, resources and services to help staff and board leaders enhance their community mission impact.