

Name: Gary M^cGrane

Running For: County Commissioner

Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to reflect on your experience with Maine's nonprofit sector. Once we receive your response, your answers will be posted on our website at www.nonprofitmaine.org/2016candidates. Please respond no later than Friday, September 30, 2016.

Did you know nonprofits:

- **Employ 1 in 7 workers** in Maine.
- **Contribute \$10 billion per year** to the economy through wages paid, retail and wholesale sales, and professional services contracted.
- **Pay \$3.6 billion annually in wages**, which translates to approximately **\$206 million in personal income tax revenue**.
- **Mobilize 350,000 volunteers each year** to improve communities.

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

As a County Commissioner I have worked directly with a number of nonprofits. As a board of Commissioners I have personally advocated for funding and direct involvement. I realize that each association has a separate cause yet have a common goal to improve the lives of those they represent.

2. Please provide specific ways in which, if elected, you would partner with the nonprofit sector to advance policies that strengthen Maine.

If re-elected I will continue to be a strong advocate for the nonprofit sector by participating in local activities as a volunteer or as a member of their board of directors. In order to strengthen Maine I continue to be an advocate for policies that represent all citizens equally.

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3. What is your position on property tax exemption for Maine nonprofit property owners?

Many nonprofit organizations pay property taxes and this seems to be a fair compromise because most organizations are exempt from paying income taxes at the state federal or local level. Many communities recognize the contribution these associations add to the well being of their community and area and as such provide a lower valuation for tax purposes. In my community for profit companies pay the lion's share of taxes and nonprofits get a reduction or exemption at the local level.

4. Do you have any specific questions or need further information on any particular issue regarding Maine's nonprofit sector that we can help you with?

Our county, unlike many other counties in Maine garner financial support from County government. Ten organizations receive funding to show our support and recognition of their contribution to the economy. Do you have figures as to what the total contribution to Franklin County nonprofits contribute to the County economy?

You may submit your responses as follows:

Via email to: mecasale@nonprofitmaine.org

Online: www.nonprofitmaine.org/2016candidates

Via mail to:

Mary Erin Casale
Maine Association of Nonprofits
565 Congress Street, Suite 301
Portland, ME 04101

MANP is a tax-exempt nonprofit corporation under IRS code 501(c)(3) and therefore cannot endorse candidates for elected office. Our goal is to promote an educated and enthusiastic nonprofit community that votes.