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.

   I have been working with nonprofits for years as an organizational development consultant and facilitator.

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

   Community engagement and coalition building are going to be a necessary factor in shaping our future in Maine. We need non-profit leaders to prepare and have a hand in facing climate change, energy, decent work, and social justice issues.

   We can’t solve complex problems if heroes are needed to do it together.

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

I think it is great to support non-profits with property tax exemptions. It is problematic for towns & municipalities, especially when those non-profits are real estate developers. It might be good to see some greater connections in towns & cities of their nonprofit non-profit developers or find new ways to improve local outcomes.

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?

I am eager to learn how charitable nonprofits are engaging the communities they serve in leadership roles.

I am also very interested in learning more about how educational nonprofits are working to engage our teens at middle schools in solving the problems of the future today by service learning and action research.

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.

Thank you!