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 mayor of Bangor, I worked closely with nonprofits, which account for 38% of Bangor's property valuation. As Grand Knight with the Bangor Council of Columbus, I know how important nonprofits are to our community, especially charitable giving.

2. **Please provide specific ways in which, if elected, you would partner with the nonprofit sector to advance policies that strengthen Maine.**
   
   We need to encourage our young adults to get active with a non-profit. Most work in the community provided great assistance to many individuals beyond government programs.

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

Nonprofits must maintain their tax exempt status, so they can have adequate funds for their outreach and giving programs. I have no problem with any non-profit making a voluntary payment in lieu of taxes, something I encouraged as Mayor of Bangor.

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?

Keep up the good work. Remember, non-profits are a big part of “the thousand points of light.”

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.*