



Nonprofit Community Letter to Maine Congressional Delegation

April 16, 2020

Dear Senator Collins, Senator King, Rep. Pingree and Rep. Golden:

Like most other parts of our economy, Maine's nonprofit sector, representing about 16% of the state's workforce (1 in 6 jobs), continues to struggle in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The CARES Act includes significant relief for charitable organizations by including them in the emergency loan programs, extending unemployment benefits to many nonprofit employees, and providing a small tax incentive for charitable giving. Nonprofits are appreciative of this relief.

A unified group of major national organizations has put together a [set of recommendations](#) for modifications to the CARES Act that will help preserve nonprofits' ability to provide essential services at this time of greatest need. MANP fully supports these recommendations, and we seek your assistance in ensuring that they are included in the fourth COVID-19 stimulus bill that Congress passes. Specifically, nonprofits need the following four modifications to the CARES Act:

1. **Expanding nonprofits' access** to credit to provide for immediate financial relief by expanding nonprofit eligibility for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and by establishing a dedicated funding stream for PPP loans to nonprofit organizations.
2. **Strengthening temporary above-the-line charitable deduction** from the CARES Act by allowing taxpayers to use it on the 2019 taxes, significantly increasing the \$300 cap, and extending it beyond 2020.
3. **Holding harmless self-insured nonprofits** by providing funding to cover 100% of the costs of these organizations' unemployment claims. Without this change, many nonprofits that provide health care, food assistance, affordable housing, childcare, and other critical services will have to end or curtail services later this year.
4. **Increase emergency funding** so that nonprofits can work with state and local governments to provide essential services to vulnerable families and frontline responders to the COVID-19 crisis.

Thank you for your continued leadership during this crisis. The CARES Act was an important first step in helping nonprofits recover from the COVID-19 crisis. We hope you and your colleagues in Congress can make these important modifications to help nonprofits continue to provide essential services in our communities.

Please feel free to reach out to Sarah Skillin Woodard at Maine Association of Nonprofits (swoodard@nonprofitmaine.org) for additional information on any of these requests.

Sincerely,

7 Lakes Alliance
Alliance for Addiction and Mental
Health Services
American Cancer Society
American Cancer Society Cancer
Action Network
Bath Area Family YMCA
Belfast Soup Kitchen
Birth Roots
Blue Hill Heritage Trust
Boothbay Region Land Trust
Boothbay Region YMCA
Boys & Girls Clubs of Southern Maine
Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust
United Way of Midcoast Maine
Camp Timanous
Catherine Morrill Day Nursery
Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust
Congregation Beth Israel
Council on International Educational
Exchange (CIEE)
Eastport Arts Center
Engine
Freeport Community Services
Friends of Merrymeeting Bay
Georges River Land Trust
Goodwill Northern New England
Greater Lovell Land Trust
Hardy Girls Healthy Women
Homeless Advocacy for All
Island Housing Trust
Karma Fund
Kennebec Estuary Land Trust
Kittery Land Trust
Landmark Heritage Trust
Leadership Portland
Lighthawk.org
Literacy Volunteers of Franklin and
Somerset Counties

Literacy Volunteers of Greater Sanford
Live and Work in Maine
Mahoosuc Land Trust
Maine Association of Nonprofits
Maine Coalition to End Domestic
Violence
Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Maine Crafts Association
Maine Farmland Trust
Maine Management Consulting
Maine Osteopathic Association
Maine Public Health Association
Maine State Music Theatre
Mary Fifield Associates
Midcoast Conservancy
My Place Teen Center
New Ventures Maine
Oasis Free Clinics
Oceanside Conservation Trust
Oceanview Manor, Inc. &
Pinewood Manor, Inc.
Old Town Orono YMCA
Opera Maine
Pampered Pet Porter
Piscataquis County EDC
Pope Memorial Humane Society
Presumpscot Regional Land Trust
Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust
RESTORE: The North Woods
Riding To The Top Therapeutic Riding
Rippleffect
Sanford-Springvale YMCA
Sea Change Yoga
Smith & Wilkinson
Sunrise County Economic Council
Sweetser
The Bingham Program
The Center for Grieving Children
The Kennebec Land Trust

The Maine Children's Home for
Little Wanderers
United Midcoast Charities
United Veterans of Maine
United Way of Eastern Maine
Vinalhaven Land Trust
Visit Freeport
Waldo County YMCA
Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts

Waterville Community Dental Center
Wayfinder Schools
Western Foothills Land Trust
White Pine Programs
WindowDressers
YMCA Alliance of Maine
YMCA Alliances of ME & NH/VT
YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston
YMCA of Southern Maine