2022 Candidate Survey - Maine Association of Nonprofits

Thank you for taking the time to reflect on your experience with Maine’s nonprofit sector.

Through this questionnaire, the Maine Association of Nonprofits (MANP) offers Maine candidates for publicly elected office the opportunity to reach our vital constituency to let them know how you would partner with nonprofits to advance policies that would strengthen our state.

Our goal is to promote an educated and enthusiastic nonprofit community that votes.

Please complete the questionnaire no later Friday, September 30, 2022. We will post responses to our website the following week.

Did you know?
Did you know nonprofits:

- Employ 1 in 6 Maine workers. That’s triple the size of the construction industry.
- Pay 18% of the state’s total payroll
- Generate $300+ million in state tax revenue
- Contribute nearly $14 Billion to the nation’s economy

Email *

Anne Gass
Office Running For: *

- Governor
- U.S. House
- State House
- State Senate
- Sheriff
- County Commissioner
- Other: 

District *

104

Campaign website:

www.anne-gass.org

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

I've worked for or closely with nonprofits throughout my 40+ year professional career. I've launched new nonprofits, served on boards (such as the Genesis Community Loan Fund), and have worked with nonprofits in Maine and nationally. Since 1993 my business, ABG Consulting LLC, has focused on helping nonprofits and local and state governments with programs that help people in need lead stable, successful lives. I really appreciate the mission-driven dedication of people who work in the nonprofit field. For many years I taught federal grantwriting workshops for MANP.
Please describe your top 3 policy goals. *

I have a number of policy interests- here are three that could involve nonprofits, though for profit companies and local & state governments could be involved as well:
* Expanding the supply of, and access to, affordable housing
* Expanding access to child care and home health care
* Protecting access to and providing reproductive health care and justice for women.

Please provide specific ways in which, if elected, you would partner with the nonprofit sector to achieve the goals of your campaign.

Over the last 30 years Maine has seen a significant increase in the strength and capacity of its affordable housing developers, particularly nonprofits who are interested in owning and managing properties to keep them affordable in perpetuity. I'd like to explore the expansion of the community land trust model for low and moderate income people who are priced out of homeownership, especially in many coastal and southern Maine communities.

Maine has many strong child care and home health care businesses, some of which are nonprofit. I'd like to explore ways to strengthen their work and financial stability, including through improved reimbursement rates.

I know this seems like a trope, but in my almost 3 decades of consulting experience I've seen a lot of variability in nonprofits’ (as well as local and state governments’) capacity to think about their service delivery in business terms. This doesn't require that everyone have an MBA- there are some very simple and basic strategies people can use to improve their program design and planning that will improve their ability to secure and to implement grant funding. Part of what needs to happen is for program people to talk to the finance people. I'm a huge advocate for using tax dollars as efficiently and effectively as possible. Perhaps MANP already does this but I'd like to see workshops or certifications that help people learn these- perhaps a certification could earn them more points when seeking grant funding.