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COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate name

Robert Zeigler

Q2

Office running for (governor, PA House, PA Senate)

PA House

Q3

District

171

Q4

Party affiliation

Democrat

Q5

How have you or someone close to you benefited from nonprofit services?*Nonprofits include groups like food banks, Habitat for Humanity, YMCAs, religious institutions, museums, libraries, childcare centers.

The local library in Millheim provides equitable access to books and media and other forms of low cost entertainment.

Q6

Nonprofits not only provide mandated services on behalf of state and federal government, but they positively contribute to the Commonwealth (providing 15% or 807,000 jobs), and by bringing in revenue from outside the state. What policies do you propose to promote continued job growth for nonprofit employers so they can continue addressing community needs?

Implementing intern programs that offer credit at local libraries, museums, childcare centers, and other non profits would open up opportunities for the community to gain valuable work experience at a low cost to the organizations that they work with.

Q7

Would you support increases in reimbursement rates* for nonprofits providing contracted government health and human services? If not, please explain why.*Some rates have not been increased for over a decade.

Yes. This should have been done a long time ago.

Q8

87% of nonprofits were negatively impacted by the pandemic - and continued to provide services to those most vulnerable. The state has yet to designate funding to support our work. Given the likelihood of a looming recession, what policies do you support to ensure financial support to these nonprofits so critical to your work?

We need to assess where the government can step in with things like low interest loans, loan forgiveness, subsidies, and other assistance programs. There are also systems in place that could be streamlined to improve communication between non-profits and government entities. Connecting different resources could help with this issue.

Q9

Many nonprofits were created to address inequities in policy or programs.* If elected, how would you go about identifying and addressing these inequities?*Examples: Food banks exist to serve those who live in food deserts or have other limited access to food. Suicide hotlines exist to serve those who have no where else to turn when life no longer seems worth living.

If elected I would work with to emulate federal programs that work to bring supermarkets to food deserts and that other social programs are receiving adequate funding. A lot of inequities are perpetuated by low wages which is why I would also fight to raise the minimum wage.

Q10

If elected, what would be your top three policy priorities?

Raising the minimum wage
Legalizing marijuana to fund education and health services
Anti-corruption legislation
