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Q1

Candidate name

Steve Malagari

Q2

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

State Representative

Q3

District

PA-53

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.

I am fortunate enough to live in a district where we have various nonprofit organizations that help residents of my community with various issues. Two of them are "Manna on Main Street," and "Home at Last Dog Rescue." Manna on Main Street serves as a food bank for low-income residents in our district and they do fantastic work in making sure no one that attends their facilities leaves and goes to sleep on an empty stomach. My office works and coordinates with the organization to make sure that we are doing everything we can to make sure that Manna on Main Street has all of the resources they need. As for Home at Last, our family dog Toby is a 5-year-old rescue. He was three when we got him and glad we did because he was time-stamped to be put down by the SPCA before Home at Last rescued him. We are fortunate to have him in our lives and I think he is happy to be with us too.

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?

Unfortunately, over \$6 billion dollars from American Rescue Plan funding is left untouched by the State Government. I am an ally in allocating most, if not all, funding towards the non-profit organizations in our Commonwealth. To allow non-profits to continue to provide for communities, we need to be driving federal and state funding like the leftovers we have from the ARPA, towards hiring employees. It's a two-way straight, we need to be assisting nonprofits as much as we can so they can have the bandwidth they need to fully function.

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.

I am in full support—it's a shame that as a result of a particular party having the majority in the Pennsylvania House, some rates have not been increased in over a decade. I am also in support of exempting nonprofit employees who buy commercial goods that go towards their foundation and beneficiaries in receiving an exemption on sales tax. Nonprofit employers and employees pay their fair share in taxes by contributing to social security and medicare, as well as state income tax. The last thing we should be doing is reaching into the pockets of those that are helping our constituents the most.

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?

I would work to strengthen our Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), where nonprofits that work to lessen poverty receive funding from the Commonwealth. I would also explore a system where non-profits receive the funding they deserve and need to be based on the first fiscal year prior to COVID-19.

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.

Us legislators want to know about the major issues that are going on in our communities and there is no better group out there that identifies those issues than non-profit organizations. As a result, I am in full support of making sure the nonprofits in my district, and the Commonwealth as a whole, have the funding and resources they need to identify and reprimand said issues.

Q10

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

The three main issues that prompted me to run for office are: infrastructure, helping our seniors, and supporting our local school districts. My goals to help these issues as a public servant, are to help supply those outlets of life with various means of government help. I am quite honored and proud of the fact that I have brought back millions of dollars to my local school districts in grant money, and also towards infrastructure. As for the senior services, my office works tirelessly to provide individuals in our community with various benefits that they are entitled to.
