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Q1

Candidate name

Tarik Khan

Q2

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

PA House

Q3

District

194

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.

Yes. For all of my life I have benefitted from and cherished the services and offerings of many non-profit organizations. I started a non-profit organization for children in Haiti called Enabling Minds, and have worked for two non-profit organizations as a staff nurse. My current role as family nurse practitioner is at another non-profit organization called Family Practice and Counseling Network.

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?

I would advocate for increased funding to nonprofits that clearly perform a public good, like those which support low-income and marginalized communities, provide cultural enrichment, and those which provide child, elder, and other family care.

Also, to support continued job growth, I would support policies to require large nonprofits to respect their workers and make sure workers are partners in driving the vision and mission of the organizations. I'd support legislation to require that in order for any nonprofit with 200 or more employees to receive state funding or grants, they must: 1) not have violated the Fair Labor Standards Act within the last 5 years; 2) not been found guilty of an unfair labor practice in the last 5 years; and 3) show proof that at least 20% of their governing board are employees elected by the workers to help navigate their future. Nonprofits operate best, and can create the most jobs, when employees are fully at the table and helping to drive the vision.

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

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 support increased state funding for nonprofits that support low-income and marginalized communities, provide cultural enrichment, and those which provide child, elder, and other family care.

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.

I would seek guidance from constituents and advocates on what the largest inequities are which nonprofits have been created to address, and seek to create change within state government to better address those issues.

Q10

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

Workers' Rights and Fair Wage for Work - I treat many patients who work long and stressful hours and in jobs that do not pay them enough to adequately provide housing, food, medical costs, and leisure for themselves and their families. I will co-sponsor and fight for the passage of the Minimum Wage Act (HB 15) which will raise the current poverty minimum wage in Pennsylvania workers to a living wage of \$15 per hour. I also support a worker's right to organize in the workplace and will fight alongside unions to ensure workers are treated with dignity and respect.

Quality Education for All- Many of our children in Philadelphia and across PA receive their education in oversized classrooms in toxic schools with lead, mold, and asbestos. Meanwhile, PA taxpayers spend hundreds of millions a year on underperforming charter schools that bleed money from our already underfunded public school system. I will support legislation to ensure that schools are fairly and fully funded, class sizes are limited, teachers get the pay they deserve, students have access to an on-site nurse, librarian, and psychologists. I would also support legislation stopping the privatization of our schools including a state-wide moratorium on new charter schools. I also support working to fund the remediation of the lead, asbestos, and mold in our schools.

Quality Health Care for All and Protections for Patients and Staff- Safe staffing has been the top issue for our frontline nurses for decades since it leads to decreased patient deaths, nursing injuries, and costs. Unfortunately, administrators and some legislators continue to oppose common sense, evidence-based solutions. I will co-sponsor and lead the passage of the Patient Safety Act (HB 106/ SB 240), a bill that I helped to write in a historic collaboration with nursing unions and professional nursing organizations. The Patient Safety Act will establish minimum safe staffing standards for nurses working on the frontlines in hospitals across the state. Additionally, I believe that healthcare is a human right, and I support a Medicare-for-all system to ensure all people receive quality healthcare regardless of their income.
