



2026 Candidate Survey

Candidate Name: April Fournier

Office Running For: State House

District: 114

Campaign Website: aprilforportland.org

Please describe your personal and professional experience with nonprofit organizations

My current job is as the managing director for a national Native-led non-profit. We work all over the country with Native American communities to develop their leaders, provide training and support for organizing and help with amplifying advocacy campaigns for issues impacting them. I have also worked in early childhood special education where I worked for several different non-profits for the decade in that field.

Please describe your top three policy goals.

My first goal is affordability. What I have heard from Portlanders and from people all over Maine is that our current economic conditions are not sustainable and creating increasing hardships. It might be impacting their ability to get fuel for heating their home, put food on their table, afford their rent or mortgage payment or pay for childcare so they can work. We need to find ways to reduce the economic burden on the vast majority of Mainers to ensure that no one has to choose between the things they need the most to live.

My second goal is working to ensure that Mainers are healthy. This means access to healthcare that is affordable and close to their community. This means ensuring schools have the resources they need. That communities have the mental health, substance use, family support and social services they need in community. This means that the organizations that support all of this can get reimbursement for services at the rate that

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allows them to stay in business. This means that we're also watching out for environmental threats and remedies, energy prices (for heating and cooling) and that our most vulnerable Mainers are cared for.

My third goal is doing this work through a lens of equity. When policies are proposed it's critical that we engage with the communities they benefit or the communities that would be impacted to ensure what we're passing is the right thing for everyone.

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

What I know as an organizer and from the wisdom passed up through generations is that all things are in relationship and that if we want to help we need to first build connections, trust and non-extractive relationships. The non-profit sector is critical to providing so many supports, services and resources to our communities. My partnership would be to help ensure that the lens that non-profits are looking through are inclusive of the community voices they seek to serve. That they are good stewards of the funds they receive and that the work being done has demonstrated impact on the community they are working with and for. There is also very rarely a one-size fits all solution, so it is also important to me to look at the different structures, sizes, purposes and communities non-profits are operating in when we are considering policy solutions.

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