



2026 Candidate Survey

Candidate Name: Peter J. Southam

Office Running For: State Senate

District: 19

Campaign Website: petersouthamforstatesenate.com

Please describe your personal and professional experience with nonprofit organizations

I was the founding board president of Inland Woods and Trails 15 years ago. This organization was formed to build recreational trails in our area. We have conserved land, built trails and improved the recreational culture in our area.

I taught at Gould Academy for 22 years, and in independent (non-profit) schools for 34 years. I have also served on the board of the Bethel Outing Club.

Please describe your top three policy goals.

Improve access to affordable housing, medical care, education.

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

In our town, the Northern Forest Center has completed on project and is taking on others to help provide affordable housing. I think this is a good model for renovating and expanding the housing stock that allows access to grants and funding not traditionally available to for-profit builders. Some schools and many health clinics and hospitals are already managed by non-profits, (especially if you count local school districts as non-profits) so I hope to work with these groups to improve healthcare and education in the state.

MANP does not endorse candidates or promote or endorse any political party. MANP's goal is to educate nonprofits and legal and effective advocacy and election season activity, to educate candidates about the impact and potential of the nonprofit sector, and to educate voters by soliciting information directly from candidates on how they would strengthen and partner with the sector if elected.

www.NonprofitMaine.org