2026 Candidate Survey

Candidate Name: Adrienne Paul

Office Running For: U.S. House
District: 85
Campaign Website: AdriennePaul.com

Please describe your personal and professional experience with nonprofit organizations

I have worked in early childhood education since 1998 and own a childcare center in Standish. Although my center is a for-profit business, my work regularly connects families with organizations that support children's development and well-being. I am also a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Maine Association for the Education of Young Children.

In my community, I am a member of the Standish Lions Club and the local fish and game club. Through these connections, I have seen how much volunteers contribute to their neighbors and how valuable local organizations are to the communities they serve. As a legislator, I would listen to the people doing that work when considering policies that affect them.

Please describe your top three policy goals.

My top three policy goals are:

1. Make Maine more affordable. I want to examine the state policies that drive up costs for working families, small businesses, and older residents, and make responsible budget decisions that respect taxpayers.

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.

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2. Protect access to stable, affordable housing. In Standish, I have heard directly from manufactured-home residents concerned about rising lot rents and the security of their homes. I want to work on practical protections for residents while addressing the broader shortage of housing Maine families can afford.

3. Strengthen access to childcare. As a childcare center owner, I know how difficult it is for families to afford care and for providers to recruit and retain staff. I want to bring that experience to Augusta and work with families, providers, and community organizations on solutions that keep childcare available without placing unsustainable costs on parents or providers.

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

If elected, I would invite nonprofit leaders, volunteers, and the people they serve into policy discussions early, especially on affordability, housing, and childcare. I would meet with organizations in House District 85 to hear where families are falling through the cracks and which state rules make it harder for them to help.

On housing, I would work with organizations that assist manufactured-home residents and support affordable housing to explore practical options for protecting residents and expanding housing choices. On childcare, I would bring providers, family support organizations, and workforce partners together to identify ways to make care more affordable for parents while helping programs recruit and retain staff.

I would also ask nonprofits for candid feedback on state grant and contract processes, including paperwork and payment delays. Public funds should be accounted for, and organizations delivering needed services should be able to spend their time serving Mainers rather than navigating unnecessary obstacles. I would not expect us to agree on every issue, but I would keep the door open and work together where we share a goal.

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