



Maine Equal Justice

People Policy Solutions

Fundraising and Donor Privacy Policy

Approved by Finance & Fundraising Committee, May 21, 2024

Our Approach to Fundraising

Maine Equal Justice puts people who have been directly impacted by systemic injustice at the center of our organizing, policy, and legal services work. We ground everything we do in people's lived experience with the programs and systems we seek to change. Relationships built on shared values, trust, and open communication fuel our work.

We aim to bring this same approach to our fundraising work. We hope to build genuine relationships among staff, board members, and donors. All who engage in strengthening the community are equally valued, whether volunteer, staff, donor, or board member. We see financial contribution as *one* way to participate in and support our work, but not the only way. Time is valued equally as money. There are many important ways to engage in this work, in addition to supporting it financially: joining us at a rally, volunteering at an event, calling your legislators when we send out an action alert, or connecting one-on-one with a staff member.

We aspire to align our fundraising practices with [Community Centric Fundraising Principles](#). These evolving principles "have been developed from conversations with many fundraisers of color over the past few years. These 10 Principles are how we aspire to transform fundraising and philanthropy, so that they are co-grounded in racial and economic justice."

"We believe that everyone (donors, staff, funders, board members, volunteers) personally benefits from engaging in the work of social justice – it's not just charity and compassion"

You can find all 10 principles and learn more about the Community Centric Fundraising movement [here](#).

What donors can expect from MEJ

- A. Appropriate receipt and prompt acknowledgement of gifts

- B. Easy-to-find information about MEJ's governance and finances through a call or email to our office or at www.maineequaljustice.org.
- C. That their gifts will be used for the purposes for which they were given.
- D. We treat donors as partners, and this means that we are transparent, and occasionally have difficult conversations ([CCF Principle 6](#))
- E. That information about their donation is handled with respect and with confidentiality to the extent provided by law.
- F. Prompt, truthful and clear answers to any questions regarding their donation and how we are using it for our mission.

Donor Privacy Policy

A. Anonymity: Upon your request, MEJ will keep your gift and/or status as a donor anonymous. While we generally do not publish donor names in reports or newsletters, MEJ reserves the right to publish your name on a list of donors unless you request anonymity. MEJ will not list donor names by amount or publish the amount of your gift. MEJ reserves the discretion to disclose the receipt of an anonymous gift, the amount of the gift, and any restricted purpose attached to the gift.

B. Removal: Upon your request, MEJ will promptly remove you from our postal mailing list and will not contact you. You can unsubscribe from our email list at any time at the bottom of any email. We will also remove you from our email list at your request and we will not contact you.

C. Use/Sharing of Your Information: MEJ does not sell, trade, or share your name or any contact information with any other organization. MEJ will only release your personal information if required by law.

D. Online donations: We do not electronically or in any other way store your credit card information. We use a secure donation platform called Donorbox to process your gifts made online. You can find Donorbox's full privacy policy [here](#). No credit card information is ever stored on Donorbox servers or shared with third parties other than the payment processors you choose to link. Our linked payment processor is Stripe. You can find their privacy policy [here](#).

E. To change your information or ask questions about our data and donor policy, please contact Emily Manter, Director of Donor Engagement, Maine Equal Justice, 126 Sewall Street, Augusta, ME 04330, o. (207) 800-4621, emily@mejp.org.

F. This privacy policy will be posted and updated on maineequaljustice.org.