

# Charlie Gerow

## Employment

“What would you like to do to make sure that employment barriers are lessened or eliminated for people with disabilities?”

- Mr. Gerow strongly prefers expanding the Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities Act, so people with disabilities have a better chance to reach their potential, keep more of the money they make, and eliminate maximum limits on how much they can make so they do not lose or reduce their benefits.

## Transportation

“Transportation is difficult in many rural communities, regardless of disability. What will you do to address accessible transportation needs for people with disabilities?”

- Mr. Gerow suggests expanding transportation opportunities by extending the free transit program that's offered to seniors currently, to people with disabilities as well.
- He also suggests allowing vehicles providing transportation for people with disabilities to be closer to the entrance of homes or institutions where people with disabilities are located.
- He favors developing a system for rating the providers for public transportation to determine how well they are meeting the needs of people with disabilities.

## Home and Community Based Services


“What would you do to increase the availability of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)?”

- Mr. Gerow thinks it's important to improve the HCBS application process to make it more simple, as well as take away barriers, so that getting medicine and equipment, as well as other supplies, allow people to stay in their own homes.
- He suggests that the state develop policy that responds to the data that shows that people in their own homes have better physical and mental health outcomes, as well as create lower costs.



A small businessman, Mr. Gerow is CEO of Quantum Communications, a public relations firm based in Harrisburg. He is a member of the Republican State Committee from Cumberland Co. and has been elected as a delegate to the Republican National Convention multiple times.



A Project of The Women and Girls Foundation 

## **Healthcare**

“What could you do to improve understanding and sensitivity for clinicians regarding disabilities, and ultimately for everyone?”

- Mr. Gerow emphasize )the importance of continuing education requirements for licensed healthcare professionals, and suggests they should be taught by people with disabilities due to their increased experience regarding daily issues facing them.

## **Housing**

“What could you do to increase the affordability and availability of housing for people with disabilities?”

- Mr. Gerow suggests having the state work more along with federal housing programs to improve timeliness, including housing modifications.

## **Primary Education**

“How will you work to ensure that students with disabilities continue to receive high quality primary and secondary education, and support services, as the pandemic continues?”

- Mr. Gerow believes that school choice, which would allow students to get their education at a different school than the school district that would usually apply to where they live, if they are in underperforming schools.

## **Post-Secondary Education**

“What kind of actions would you consider to support people with disabilities to attend and complete college?”

- Mr. Gerow wants to ensure that any colleges, or other higher education institutions that receive federal funds, are implementing ADA (American Disabilities Act) regulations 100 percent, as many still don't provide appropriate levels of accessibility.

## **Paid Family and Medical Leave**

“What are your thoughts on Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML)?”

- Mr. Gerow thinks that PFML or related types of legislation should receive serious consideration, as long as they are funded clearly and without creating additional budget problems for Pennsylvania taxpayers.



A Project of The Women and Girls Foundation 