

**Tom Wolf**  
**Project Home Questionnaire**

**Affordable Housing:** The State Housing Trust Fund, modeled on the National Housing Trust Fund, can be instrumental in helping to develop affordable housing for families across the state. However, the Fund currently lacks the financial backing to effectively impact those Pennsylvanians who are most in need of affordable housing. **As Governor, how would you support the State Housing Trust Fund and improve access to affordable housing in Pennsylvania?**

Access to affordable housing is crucial to creating the conditions that allow residents to prosper socially and economically. Investments in affordable housing provide significant value by helping to move vulnerable populations onto a path towards stability. As governor, I'll work to appropriately fund the State Housing Trust Fund, so that we can expand its reach and increase access to housing services for low and moderate income households across Pennsylvania. Through my Office of Smart Growth and State Planning, I will also work with local communities to expand mixed-income housing developments so that we are not concentrating poverty or pushing low-income residents out of gentrifying neighborhoods.

**General Assistance:** In 2012, 70,000 Pennsylvanians experienced the elimination of state cash benefits called General Assistance. Individuals with documented disabilities who were waiting on their Social Security applications, those fleeing domestic violence, and those in intensive drug & alcohol treatment programs, lost their sole source of income overnight. **As Governor, what steps will you take to assist Pennsylvania's vulnerable populations who were harmed by General Assistance cuts?**

Governor Corbett's decision to cut General Assistance is yet another example of how his administration has neglected Pennsylvania's most vulnerable residents. Under Governor Corbett, corporations and the wealthy get all the breaks, while hardworking families and those struggling are left behind. These cuts make it more difficult for these low-income adults to access life-saving medications, buy healthy food, and pay rent. As governor, I'll work to restore General Assistance for our most vulnerable residents.

**Healthcare:** Pennsylvania loses \$10 million a day in federal funding by not accepting Medicaid Expansion that would help 500,000 uninsured Pennsylvanians get needed health care while boosting the economy. **As Governor, what would you do to make health care affordable and available to all Pennsylvanians?**

Governor Corbett's Healthy PA is yet another move by his administration to direct taxpayer dollars to private companies. His refusal to expand Medicaid has prevented hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians from obtaining health insurance, even as Pennsylvania tax dollars are being used to expand health care coverage in other states.

As governor, one of my first acts will be to expand Medicaid, which will provide coverage to half-a-million hardworking Pennsylvanians, save the Commonwealth millions of dollars, and pump billions into the state's economy.

**Ending Homelessness:** Multiple research studies have shown that ending homelessness saves money as well as lives – it costs less to provide housing and services than to allow a person to remain homeless. Further investment in these permanent supportive housing and supportive services options is needed to fully address the issue of homelessness. **As Governor, what will you do to assist Philadelphia and Pennsylvania in achieving the goal of ending homelessness?**

Housing first policies positively impact chronically homeless residents, by providing the stability necessary to move forward. As governor, I will work with local governments and other key stakeholders to explore ways—including the State Housing Trust Fund—to make housing affordable and accessible to all residents. At the same time, I'll work to distribute state funds in a way that does not require vitally important social services to compete against each other for funding.

**Economic Recovery and Jobs:** Job training and career pathways systems address barriers to employment and provide individuals with the skills needed to find and sustain competitive employment. **As Governor, how will you create and sustain jobs that empower economically struggling Pennsylvanians to break the cycle of poverty and homelessness?**

I have spent most of my life as a business entrepreneur creating jobs. The state's role begins with strong education programs that give every resident an opportunity build the skills necessary to compete in the job market. As governor, I will restore Governor Corbett's \$1 billion in cuts to education and implement a fair funding formula. Additionally, I will direct workforce training funding to programs that equip low-skilled workers with the tools needed to find good paying, long-term employment in Pennsylvania.

**Prison Release & Homelessness:** Each year, tens of thousands of people are released from prison in Pennsylvania, 30-40 percent of them to homelessness. These individuals often face barriers to employment and are legally disqualified from many public services. **As Governor, what will you do to prevent homelessness among people released from prison?**

I know the important role steady employment plays both in allowing the recently incarcerated to rejoin productive society, and in breaking the cycle of recidivism. At the Wolf Organization, we make a concerted effort during the hiring process to consider individuals who have been convicted of minor drug and other non-violent offenses. As governor, I will work with the private sector to encourage efforts like "Ban the Box" policies, which help ensure a path to reentry for ex-offenders.