



2020 Candidate Questionnaire

**CCC&Y is a non-partisan organization and will not endorse candidates. We do support educated, engaged and participatory communities. Thank you to all the candidates for your willingness to serve the community, and especially, by answering this questionnaire, helping voters to become informed.*

The responses from the candidates will be uploaded to our website <https://coconinokids.org/candidates-2020/> as received without edits.

Directions: Please provide **your** response for the questions and information below without referring to another candidate. **Questionnaires that mention another candidate will not be posted.**

Candidate Name: Paul Deasy

Office: Mayor of Flagstaff

The mission of CCC&Y is: Igniting collective action to cultivate, honor & empower resilient, thriving communities.

The vision of CCC&Y is: We envision a holistic community where all children of Coconino County are increasingly free from trauma experience and all have equitable opportunities that build resiliency.

Please describe how your leadership and sphere of influence will impact this mission and vision; paying special attention to issues involving education, child welfare, environmental equity, and criminal justice reform? I specialized in developmental economics in graduate school, which is the branch of economics focused on improving economic and social conditions in developing countries. After graduate school I won a research fellowship with the National Science Foundation to assess how to channel foreign aid to instill democracy, reduce civil conflict, and develop the economy of war-torn countries. We didn't measure the success of programs based on GDP. The most important factor to reduce civil conflict, child labor, and create an equitable criminal justice system is through increased education. That is why we regularly used the Human Development Index to measure the success of programs, which is calculated by assessing educational attainment of the population, as well as healthcare measures like infant death rates. So many of the issues we face in society are either prevented or treated by equitable access to education and healthcare. I have been a strong advocate for social programs to address these issues and have professionally evaluated programs based on how they affected children.

If you find yourself faced with issues that are new to you or not fully understood by yourself, how do you plan to be influenced and make informed decisions? Nothing can really be fully understood, so it is always important to reach out to stakeholders, experts in the field, and those who are invested in the issues being discussed. As a government analyst in my day job, I am very evidence-based, I research the topics, and strive to learn as much as I can before making a decision.

Lastly, is there anything further you would like to share with us? My wife was a pediatrics/PICU nurse for 5 years, and had to witness the plight many children face in our community. I look forward to learning more about what we can do to address these issues in a proactive manner.