

**For Immediate Release**

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**CITIZENS FOR ALAN KHAZEI RELEASES FUNDRAISING REPORT TO FEC**

*Stresses the Importance of Transparency and the Problematic Impact of PAC and Lobbyist Money*

BOSTON – With his official campaign announcement happening just a week earlier, Alan Khazei, Co-Founder of City Year, raised over \$1.1 million dollars by the first fundraising deadline, as indicated in the FEC report filed today. The first fundraising deadline, September 30, 2009, has shown the growing strength and energy behind this citizen-led campaign.

Khazei stated, “I am deeply grateful to all of the citizens who are responding to our agenda of Big Citizenship and supporting our campaign with their time and money. I will not accept a dime from any lobbyist or PAC. I believe every candidate in this race should make the same commitment I have and for the same reason: Because it's what's right for the people of Massachusetts and the country.”

Alan Khazei has made a pledge to the people of Massachusetts not to take any PAC or lobbyist money – so voters can be sure he will represent their interests, not the special interests. Khazei's commitment to this issue is unwavering. The Khazei campaign has a strict vetting process, and any money inadvertently received from current and former lobbyists at both the state and federal level was quickly returned.

Khazei said, “The citizens of Massachusetts deserve legislators who are transparent, open, and beholden only to them. That is what this campaign has pledged to do and that is what we have challenged our opponents to do as well.”

According to the Citizens for Alan Khazei finance report, \$817,021 was raised for the primary and \$307,400 was raised for the general election, with over 1,500 donors. Also, more than half (52%) of the donors were citizens of the Commonwealth, and only one-third (32%) of Khazei supporters donated more than \$250. In fact, more than half (52%) of all donors contributed \$100 or less. The Khazei campaign finished the quarter with \$1,040,297.72 cash on hand.

In 2008, the total spent on lobbying the federal government was \$3.3 billion. There are 14,800 registered federal lobbyists, which equates to nearly 150 lobbyists for every senator. PAC's spent hundreds of millions of dollars during the 2008 election cycle trying to influence federal legislation.

The Khazei campaign is committed to transparency in campaign finance.

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*Alan Khazei, founder of Be The Change, Inc. and co-founder of City Year, which inspired the creation of President Clinton's national and community service program AmeriCorps, is a nonprofit leader and lifelong public servant. In 2006, US News and World Report named Alan one of America's 25 Best Leaders, and the Boston Globe Magazine identified him as one of 11 Bostonians Changing the World.*