

## #4

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Page 1: With responses published for community leaders throughout your district

### Q1

About Candidates

Candidate Name	<b>Natasha Marcus</b>
District	<b>Senate District 41</b>
Party Affiliation	<b>Democratic</b>
Campaign Website	<b>NatashaMarcus.com</b>

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### Q2

Q1. Please tell us about your personal experiences with nonprofits. These may include experiences with any organizations that have served you and/or fellow residents of your community, or specific nonprofits for which you've served as a board member, staff person, volunteer, or donor. How do these experiences shape your policy positions? (Limit: 300 words)

Prior to taking office, I worked (and volunteered for 10 years before that) at the Ada Jenkins Center, a community service center with free medical and dental clinics, social workers, and an after-school program. I still volunteer when I can and donate annually. I was a longtime member of and donor to the YMCA. I've volunteered on builds with Habitat. I volunteered with a domestic violence advocacy project in law school. I am a volunteer foster parent for various animal rescue organizations.

All of these experiences help me know the needs in my community and the importance of community support for these vital services. My work as a Senator is yet another form of public service, a natural outgrowth of the years of volunteer work I did before I ran for office (and continue to do).

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### Q3

Q2. If elected, what would be your top three policy priorities? (Limit: 250 words)

Investments in public education  
Expanded access to affordable healthcare  
Green energy and environmentally sound policy

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**Q4**

The Center advocates on public policy issues that affect North Carolina's nonprofit sector and works with the NC General Assembly and North Carolina's members of Congress to develop laws and policies that save nonprofits time and money, help nonprofits operate more effectively, and preserve the public's trust in North Carolina's nonprofit sector. Our policy agenda includes:

- Ensuring that all 501(c)(3) nonprofits are fully exempt from federal, state, and local taxes.
- Promoting new and expanded tax deductions and credits that encourage individuals and businesses to give generously to support their communities through the work of charitable nonprofits.
- Supporting policy solutions that will address the nonprofit workforce shortage, including increased funding to support jobs in the nonprofit sector and investment in accessible and affordable child care.
- Seeking solutions to long-standing challenges that nonprofits face when they provide public services through government grants and contracts, including late contracts, late payments, overly complicated application and reporting requirements, and underpayment for indirect costs.
- Promoting laws that will help nonprofits and businesses alike to provide affordable and high-quality health care and other benefits to their employees.

Q3. If elected, which of these policy goals would you support most enthusiastically, and why? (Limit: 250 words)

The one that I've already worked on and will continue to make a top priority is the ability of nonprofits and other employers to provide affordable health care to their employees. I know from working at a non-profit that employees are usually left without healthcare, earning low wages, such that they cannot afford their own care despite working full time. That's unsustainable and unjust.

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