



Four Questions for Candidates for Office in 2018

With responses published for community leaders throughout your district

Please respond by September 7 at www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018CandidateQuestionnaire or send responses to David Heinen at dheinen@ncnonprofits.org, or North Carolina Center for Nonprofits, 5800 Farington Pl, Raleigh, NC 27609.

Candidate Name Rick Fowlke
District 68 Party Affiliation Democrat
Campaign website RickFowlke.net

Charitable nonprofits include groups like food banks, Habitat for Humanity, YMCAs, churches, synagogues, hospices, hospitals, United Ways, community theatres, private schools and colleges, museums, Meals on Wheels, and child care centers.

1. What has been your personal experience with nonprofits as a board member, employee, volunteer, or donor? How do these experiences shape your policy positions? (Limit: 300 words)

I have been a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and the Union County Community Center. For several years I was the medical director of Shelter Presbyterian Hospice for several years and regularly give to Doctors Without Border, Smile Train, Charlotte Harbor Shelter and NPR. I feel government should encourage such organizations and coordinate their actions. Tax policy for deductions I know has been important to me as a donor and should be continued.

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

1. Expansion of Medicaid
2. Greater support for the public school system.
3. Reversal of recent reductions in income tax to pay for #1 + #2

3. What is your position on these tax issues that affect charitable nonprofits?

	Strongly support				Strongly oppose	Not sure
Preserving or expanding tax exemption for charitable nonprofits	(5)	4	3	2	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encouraging individuals and businesses to give generously to nonprofits serving their communities	(5)	4	3	2	1	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please add any comments about tax policies that affect nonprofits. (Limit: 250 words)

With the federal increase in the standard deduction it leaves fewer people who itemize and I worry that will translate to lower contributions to nonprofits. I do not see a clear way to overcome that barrier except a change at the federal level to offer an additional mechanism where such contributions can offset taxes.

Nonprofits provide more than 400,000 jobs - 1 out of every 10 jobs in NC.

4. What policies would you propose to promote continued job growth for private employers, including both nonprofit and for-profit business employers? (Limit: 250 words)

The two things companies most value in moving to a state are quality of life and the quality of public schools. We are in good stead for the first but need to do work to improve our current grade of C-. Expansion of Medicaid would create an estimated 43,000 jobs. We need to increase work-based learning opportunities like internships and apprenticeship and provide solid funding for community college and state universities.

Thank you!

For more information about North Carolina's nonprofit sector or policy issues that affect nonprofits, contact David Heinen, 919-790-1555 x.111, dheinen@ncnonprofits.org.