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Q1 About Candidates

Candidate Name	Ginger Garner
District	2
Party Affiliation	Democrat
Campaign Website	www.gingergarnerNC.com

Q2 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've been a volunteer for nonprofits my entire life. Starting with my teen years, I volunteered at Hospice and in hospitals while in college and in my hometown. As a young college graduate early in my working career, I volunteered for the Initiative to Educate Afghan Women, sponsoring students, teaching yoga, mentoring, and fundraising to help meet healthcare needs. I have continuously volunteered in my local churches, for the music program as a vocalist and music leader, as a teacher, and as a Board member on various programs including Missions and Childcare.

Since 1999 I have volunteered in my community teaching free medical therapeutic yoga workshops in churches and local recreation centers. In 2009 I founded and worked for Musicians for Missions to raise money for sustainable projects and women's health in Haiti. In 2016 I was invited to join the UK-based Yoga in Healthcare Alliance and to speak on behalf of yoga trends in the US in the Palace of Westminster in a meeting in the House of Commons. In 2017 I worked for Yoga Alliance as an appointed community leader to help steer their educational standards, and as of August 2018 I have accepted a post to serve on the Board of the Carteret County Domestic Violence Program.

Q3 If elected, what would be your top three policy priorities? (Limit: 250 words)

I was raised with a passion to value life and help others. Growing up in poverty created in me a heart of service and compassion, and when I see someone in need, I am compelled to help. As a result I pursued medicine and education in school, and have spent over 20 years helping people in chronic pain and teaching people across the globe how to help others – and to do it on a shoestring budget. My top 3 priorities would be a natural continuation of my life's work, which is to 1) Root out wasteful spending in order to channel funds toward lifesaving and life sustaining needs like healthcare and education, 2) Fully support and fund our public schools, and 3) Improve access to healthcare in our rural eastern NC area, which will save people's lives and immensely improve our quality of life. Also of great importance to me is creating a healthy environment for our children and families in eastern NC, which means preserving our way of life on our coast and waterways through having clean air, clean water, and clean soil.

Four Questions for Candidates for Office in 2018

Q4 What is your position on these tax issues that affect charitable nonprofits?

Preserving or expanding tax exemption for charitable nonprofits **5 (strongly support)**

Encouraging individuals and businesses to give generously to nonprofits serving their communities **5 (strongly support)**

Q5 What policies would you propose to promote continued job growth for private employers, including both nonprofit and for-profit business employers? (Limit: 250 words)

If we are going to promote job growth for private employers, including nonprofit and for-profit businesses, then we must first wholly support education. Employers often cannot find enough workers to meet their business needs, and in my area, I have heard this story from many people time and again. In my area, this problem is made even more difficult because of our remote location, and our great need for better funding in schools, including community colleges. I support policies which will grow our community college system, support job training and retraining programs, create and grow vocational programs, and make sure every child and adult has access to the education they need to pursue a job and occupation they will love for a lifetime.
