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Q1 About Candidates

Candidate Name	Martha Shafer
District	HD 62
Party Affiliation	D
Campaign Website	www.MarthaShafer.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 have been involved with nonprofit organizations throughout both my personal and work life. I spent years working for a non-profit hospital in Greensboro. I have served on the leadership board of my church, and volunteer at our annual book sale to help raise money to support other community non-profits. I was a founding member of the parent booster club to support the fine arts departments at my daughter's public high school. I have volunteered with Meals on Wheels and donate food through A Simple Gesture, which provides non-perishable items to area food banks. I've donated to various non-profits, including After Gateway, which is a non-profit day health program that helps adults with multiple or severe developmental disabilities and to Triad Chill Polar Plunge which raises funds for Special Olympics. My work in these areas has solidified my belief that non-profits provide needed services to our communities, and must be valued and supported.

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

My top policy priorities are: 1) To invest in our public schools. I want to ensure that North Carolina teachers are getting the respect and the pay they deserve so we can provide every student the best opportunity to learn and achieve. 2) To close the health insurance coverage gap by expanding Medicaid using the federal dollars North Carolinians have already paid into the system. That money is sitting in D.C., waiting to be claimed by North Carolina. Closing the coverage gap would provide care to working families and veterans who have limited access to care, would create 43,000 jobs in 5 years, and would reduce pressure on rising healthcare insurance premiums for those who have insurance. 3) To create an independent redistricting process so voters choose their representatives, not the other way around.

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)

Four Questions for Candidates for Office in 2018

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)

I would propose improving state support for public education. New employers looking to relocate want to be able to attract and retain employees who are looking for strong public schools. Additionally, closing the Medicaid coverage gap would create 43,000 jobs- half in the healthcare sector, and half in other supporting sectors. Finally, two thirds of new jobs are created by small businesses. Those businesses need to be nurtured and allowed to grow. To do this, I support an exemption for the first \$50,000 in small businesses income.
