

## Grant Funds Philanthropy Initiative for N.C. Indians

RALEIGH- The N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs has received a \$25,000 grant from the Warner foundation to help establish a public charity to benefit Indian education efforts in North Carolina.

A public charity was proposed as a result of the commission's recent strategic planning process, which revealed the N.C. Indians can no longer rely on increasingly scarce state and federal funds to promote economic and social development. Although its exact form has not been determined, the new charity could potentially channel hundreds of thousands of dollars into activities benefitting North Carolina's Indian population, now numbering almost 100,000. The grant is helping to lay the groundwork for the charity by supporting the local leadership-training component of the N.C. Indian Philanthropy Initiative.

"This statewide project is the first of its kind to promote cooperation and involvement in philanthropy among the commission and the tribes," said Greg Richardson, commission director.

Richardson says that North Carolina's Indians lack the organizational infrastructure to compete for funds being made available for minority causes by large national foundations as well as potential financial contributions from Indians and other who wish to support efforts to build stronger Indian communities in North Carolina.

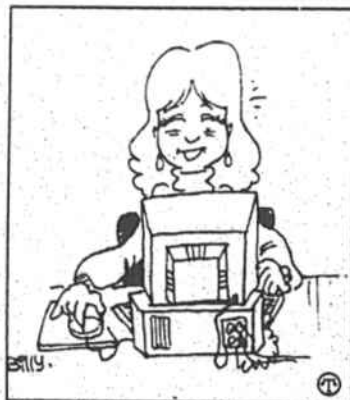
The Warner Foundation funding will provide intensive training for three or four grass-roots leaders representing each of the 11 state-recognized tribes and organizations. The training will focus on the values, methods and practices of modern philanthropy and facilitate discussions about how philanthropy can best promote Indian education through scholarships and grants.

By the end of the process, North Carolina's Indians will have fully trained leaders who are educated about philanthropy practices and can serve as local leaders and organizers of philanthropy-related activities. The training will support the development of committees within each tribe that will maintain an active connection between the tribe and the new statewide public charity.

Seven state-recognized tribes are indigenous to North Carolina. They are the Coharie, Eastern Band of Cherokee, Haliwa-Saponi, Indians of Person County, Lumbee, Meherrin and Waccamaw-Siouan. In addition, four major urban Indian organizations serve the American Indian populations of Charlotte, Fayetteville, Greensboro and Raleigh.

(NAPS)—Young Native Americans in the Four Corners of the Southwestern U.S. were coming to the hospital with fever, coughing and serious respiratory difficulties, within days many died. Disease detectives from the Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) and other scientists of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention were dispatched. They soon identified the cause as a hantavirus, a rare virus not previously known to cause disease in humans in North America. That investigation was just one of the 10,000 CDC EIS Officers have conducted in the EIS's 50 year history. You can learn more online at <http://www.cdc.gov/eis>.

Members of the home health care profession include nurses, therapists, home health aides and companions. According to a spokesman for Interim Health-Care, a leading provider of home health care professionals, 82 percent of people who face long term care would prefer not to move



from their current home. This means that home care and the need for home health care professionals will play an even greater role in the future. Finding a home health care job has become easier. Interim, for example, has an application that can be filed online. More information about a job in health care is available by visiting [www.interimhealth.com](http://www.interimhealth.com).

**LOOK**

**Body Balance**  
*So effective, you'll FEEL the Difference!*

- Energy & Endurance
- Blood Pressure
- Diabetics
- PMS
- Couch Potato Syndrome
- And Much More!

**Experience Amazing Results Yourself!  
Get Body Balance Today!**

[www.pcpowersystem.com/lfi/20296791](http://www.pcpowersystem.com/lfi/20296791)  
Call 910-827-0327 or 910-521-4611

**Attention Diabetic Patients:**  
If you have Medicare or Private Insurance,  
You may be eligible to receive your:

**Diabetic Supplies!**  
at No Cost to You.

**Toll Free 1-888-466-2678**  
Diabetic Supply Program (No HMO patients, please)

## A mother of history

BY JON ELLISTON

Thelma Clark's death of a heart attack July 7 in a Lumberton hospital didn't attract much notice, considering how closely she was tied to one of North Carolina's most controversial figures.

Clark, who was 67 when she died, grew up dirt poor in Richmond County and quit school during eighth grade to spend more time working in cotton fields. She spent much of her life scraping her way up and supporting her family, and later became a nurse. She raised three children, mostly by herself. Her son, Eddie Hatcher, the renegade folk hero recently convicted of murder, was the one who kept her busiest.

Those who've followed Hatcher's tragic trajectory--from the quixotic takeover of a newspaper office in 1988 to the 1999 drive-by shooting for which he was convicted in May of this year--may remember Clark. She was the grandmotherly lady seated in courtrooms, staring intently through thick glasses at the prosecutors, judges and juries that weighed her son's fate. She was the one cloistered by Hatcher supporters or sometimes standing alone, telling reporters that her son had been framed and that something was rotten in Robeson County.

The dozens of young activists who joined the Eddie Hatcher Defense Committee remember her as one of their own.

"We kind of saw her like a young person because of the spirit she had," says John Johnson, a 21-year-old UNC-Chapel Hill student who spent many a night camped out at Clark's house during Hatcher's trials. "We got energy from her."

Helping Hatcher defend himself was a full-time job, but Clark somehow also found time to agitate for other prisoners she believed were wronged by the system. "She was fighting for everybody," Johnson says. "Not just her son."

Clark seemed resigned to a life of continually butting heads with the authorities. But even though her victories were rare and small, "her spirits were always strong," says Ginger Ammerman, Clark's daughter, "and for many years she had accepted the path Eddie had chosen."

Prison officials allowed Hatcher to view Clark's body. Restrained by handcuffs, he asked his sister to help him place a Native American medicine bag on his mother's chest. Clark's children brought a wreath with a ribbon that read, "A mother of history."

These were small tokens of gratitude for a woman who had gone to giant lengths to secure fair treatment for her son. Last fall, when Hatcher was preparing his defense in his murder trial, I asked him where he looked for encouragement.

"My momma's always been a key figure in keeping my faith up and my hope," he answered.

Thelma Clark kept her faith in Hatcher, and her hope for justice, longer than most people have.

Reprinted from the Independent Weekly August 2, 2001

**"You know when you walk in you'll get**

**care and honesty.**

**And that's what I look for. Care and honesty."**

"When Priscilla was five months old, we were in an automobile accident. She's come a long way. Bless her heart. I don't think she'd be doing half of what she's doing now if it weren't for Southeastern Regional Medical Center. We have wonderful therapists, we have wonderful doctors, nurses. She's doing really well.

I love my daughter. If she's happy, I'm happy."

Southeastern Regional Medical Center • Lumberton • 910-671-5000 • [www.srmc.org](http://www.srmc.org)

## In Loving Memory of Anthony Morgan



### The Master's Bouquet

The Master walked in his Garden  
Plucking flowers along the way;  
He plucked one of my loved ones,  
To add to his bouquet  
My heart at first was broken  
At the loss of one so dear;  
But the tears I shed just washed my eyes,  
So I saw his way more clear.  
My Lord has a need for just this one.  
For the pattern He has in mind;  
But it's hard for the rest of us to see  
Why we must be left behind.  
Perhaps we are not ready to go just yet  
We may need to ripen more  
To reach the full blown fragrance  
My Lord is waiting for.  
To each, give forth a fragrance  
To each we chance to meet  
We should each be trying day by day  
To make our fragrance sweet.  
So I'm going to try my very best  
To be loving and kind each day  
So at last I'll be counted worthy  
To be part of my Master's Bouquet  
Love  
Mom, Dad, Brother and Sisters

Anthony was born July 12, 1970 and departed August 26, 2000

### Check Out These Web Sites:

Sally Beauty Supply at [www.sallybeauty.com](http://www.sallybeauty.com).  
T-Fal recipes at [www.t-fal.com](http://www.t-fal.com).  
Boca Burgers at [www.bocaburger.com](http://www.bocaburger.com).  
Corian at [www.corian.com](http://www.corian.com).  
Zodiaq at [www.zodiaq.com](http://www.zodiaq.com).  
Larson Manufacturing at [www.larsondoors.com](http://www.larsondoors.com).  
Cbr NewScreen at [www.newscreentest.com](http://www.newscreentest.com).  
Council for Government Reform at [www.govreform.org](http://www.govreform.org).  
TransUnion LLC at [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com).  
The Angels in Action program at [www.angelssoft.com](http://www.angelssoft.com).