

# Philanthropy Journal

OF NORTH CAROLINA

Growing pains

## State nonprofits struggle with resources, turf

The nonprofit sector in North Carolina is vast and varied. But while it's rich in resources, leaders say it lacks cohesion.

By SUSAN GRAY AND BARBARA SOLOW

North Carolina's nonprofit sector is huge - about \$18.3 billion in assets. That's equivalent to 12 percent of the roughly \$140 billion in goods and services that the state produces annually.

The sector is also sophisticated,

boasting statewide networks such as the United Way and the new N.C. Center for Nonprofits.

But the rich resources mask disparities and divisions. Most of the state's approximately 13,500 nonprofits are small and struggling. And while some groups are beginning to work together, many remain isolated.

"The idea of a nonprofit community is coming slowly," says John Dornan, executive director of the Public School Forum of North Carolina in Raleigh and a member of an informal group of nonprofit lead-

ers called The Change Group. "A large part of why the group doesn't feel like a group is a lack of information flow outside our own areas."

Nonprofit leaders throughout the state sound similar themes. In particular, they say, the lack of group identity affects fundraising, organizing and collaboration with other sectors.

### BY THE NUMBERS

A *Philanthropy Journal* analysis of 990 Forms filed with the Internal Revenue Service shows nonprofits in North Carolina reported \$18.3 billion in assets for 1992-93.

That's about 3 percent of the total assets - \$586 billion - that all U.S. charitable organizations reported in 1990, the most recent year that figures were available.

A survey by Independent Sector, a Washington-based research and advocacy organization, shows North Carolina ranks 11th in the U.S. in the number of 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations, with 13,466. California ranks first, with 64,287 nonprofits, and Wyoming ranks last, with 1,505 (see box, page 29).

Patty Milberg, director of member services for the National Council

of Nonprofit Associations in Washington, says North Carolina's nonprofit sector also ranks high in terms of organizational strength.

"North Carolina is a much more organized sector than say, South Carolina," she says. "It's always hard to compare, but North Carolina does have a resource center [the N.C. Center for Nonprofits] and a good statewide infrastructure in place for nonprofits. Many states don't have that."

The information obtained from

Look for **SECTOR**, page 29

## A helping hand Homeless shelters charging fees

Some homeless shelters have instituted fees to help cover costs at a time when the number of homeless is growing and, for some agencies, community support is waning.

By EALENA CALLENDER

Earlier this year, The Community Shelter for HOPE in Durham faced a crisis.

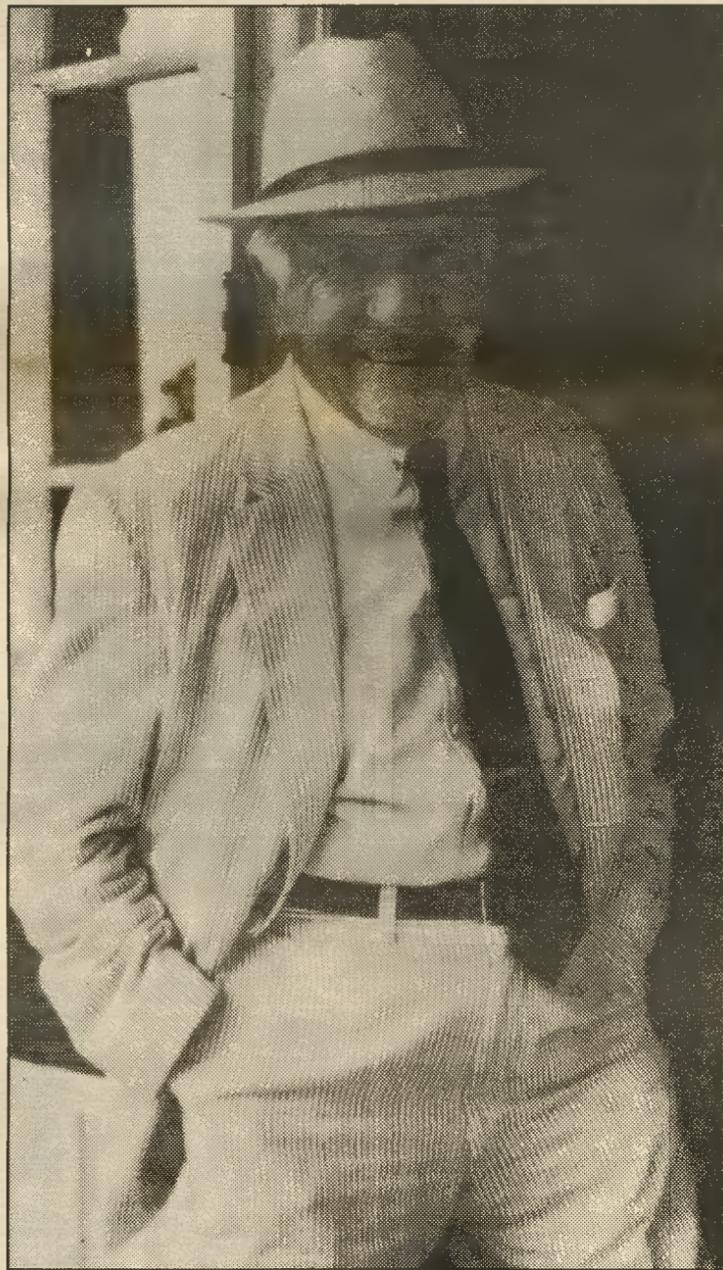
The shelter, which has room for 120 people, often was filled to capacity and forced to turn people away. Without sufficient staff and supplies, the shelter was not equipped to take in women with children. In danger of having to

### HUMAN SERVICES

close its doors because of dwindling resources, the shelter's board of directors decided to begin charging residents a fee.

"With the growing number of people who are homeless, we're going to need some help from everybody so we can survive," says Maggie Lee, shelter director.

Look for **SHELTER**, page 7



Frank H. Kenan blends spiritual values with business acumen.

Photo courtesy of Betty Kenan

A lifetime of giving

## The philanthropy of Frank Kenan

Frank H. Kenan, 82, has devoted his life to building businesses, amassing a fortune and giving away millions of dollars to support education and spur the growth of private enterprise. Kenan is the first recipient of the North Carolina Philanthropy Award.

By SUSAN GRAY

### Chapel Hill

On this autumn day, Frank Hawkins Kenan sits at his desk in Chapel Hill, his hands neatly folded in his lap, pondering a question: What is it that has driven his life-long devotion to private enterprise and philanthropy?

"I believe in miracles," he says, raising a hand and pointing a finger in the air. "I can't cite the verse, but 'Ask and you shall receive, knock and it shall be opened.'"

Silence follows.

"And, of course," he adds, "hard work."

The added comment is significant. Miracles alone don't begin to tell the story of the perseverance, ambition and unwavering commitment that have guided Kenan's long career in business and philanthropy. Currently the chief executive officer of Kenan Transport Co. and a

trustee of the William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust in Chapel Hill, Frank Kenan is not someone to sit idly, waiting for some other benefactor to help. When Kenan sees a need, he fills it.

"He's a man whose sense of commitment is what I'd call of the old North Carolina tradition of public service," says William Friday, the executive director of the Kenan Trust and former president of the University of North Carolina system - as well as a long-time friend of Kenan. "He's of that tradition of what others like Archie Davis [the retired chairman of Wachovia Bank] represent. These were people who grew up in an age when you were to give your time and energy to serve those less fortunate."

Kenan is the first recipient of the North Carolina Philanthropy Award, which is sponsored by the *Philanthropy Journal* and The News and Observer Foundation.

### WORK ETHIC

At 82, age has curved Kenan's back and tampered with his health—a tumor was recently removed from his right cheek—but his mind remains sharp and his commitment to work unimpeded. He continues to arrive at his office every weekday at 9 a.m.

"My father told me,

Look for **KENAN**, page 25



NC Philanthropy Award

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Anita Roddick, founder of The Body Shop