



First Lady Mary Easley (second, from left) poses with officials from the Children's Home Society of North Carolina.

State Children's Home Society gets \$1 million gift

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

GREENSBORO - The Children's Home Society of North Carolina has received an anonymous gift of \$1 million to its "Building Families" capital campaign, which was launched in January 2002.

With the recent receipt of this significant gift, the campaign reached a total of \$6.2 million in gifts and pledges. The CHS board of trustees voted to raise the original goal of \$7.5 million to \$10 million to meet the increasing costs of finding safe homes for the growing number of children in foster care in North Carolina.

The N.C. Department of Social Services reported that more than 10,000 children reside in North Carolina's foster care system. Of that number, more than 3,000 will be available for adoption due to issues of abuse

and neglect that prevent them from returning to their birth families.

A substantial budget is required to provide the many services CHS offers to these children and the families who open their homes to adopt them. The additional funding will support CHS's endowment and will help maintain financial resources for the future to recruit and train foster and adoptive families.

The Children's Home Society was established more than 100 years ago and has guided the placement of more than 13,000 children in adoptive homes. Programs include birth parent services; home study services; infant networking program; adoption services; foster care services; and post-adoption services.

State honorary chairs of "Building Families" capital campaign are Bill and Ida Fri-

day, Mrs. Gordon Hanes (Copey), and Mrs. Sidney J. Stern Jr. (Kay). Children's Home Society of North Carolina is a statewide, nonprofit, nonsectarian, private adoption and foster care agency that has been serving children and families in North Carolina for 100 years. CHS is licensed by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services; accredited by the Council of Accreditation of Services for Families and Children; a member of the Child Welfare League of America; a member of the N.C. Association of Residential Child Care and Family Services.

For more information on how you can contribute to "Building Families," contact Wanda Poole, director of development for CHS, at 800-632-1400, extension 201.

Smoking

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to quit smoking and that once they quit, they will become healthy. So mentally they put off quitting until they are in their 60s or until they experience a serious health event, Smith said.

The study is significant because it focuses on an age group that has not been studied well in smoking research, Smith said. Such research traditionally has focused on youths and how to prevent them from smoking.

The researchers' work was funded by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and administered through the foundation's Substance Abuse Research Program.

The multi-year study began with analysis of the Health and Retirement Study, a national survey of 22,000 people conducted every two years by the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research. Those eligible for the study when it began in 1992 were born between 1931 and 1941 and ranged in age from 51 to 61.

In 2000, data were available from four rounds of interviews: 1992, 1994, 1996 and 1998. The study provided information about respondents' smoking habits, as well as their perceptions of longevity and end-of-life care.

A second study group of 250 - parallel in demographics to the first - was created in the Raleigh-Durham area for studying "The Smoking Puzzle." Members of this study group, all smokers, participated in computer-based surveys that included anti-smoking messages.

One group received more personalized messages about health impacts, their future quality of life and possible disabilities, based on their age and smoking habits. A second

group received messages about increased mortality risks due to smoking. The study found that only those receiving the more personal messages about health and quality-of-life effects were likely to reduce the amount they smoked, Smith said.

In addition, groups such as the Lung Association and American Cancer Society may consider changing their core messages to inform smokers about the end-of-life disabilities that smoking causes, Smith said.



From left, Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, president of Bennett College, speaks with Elvin Bethea at the N.C. Legislative Black Caucus Foundation's June meeting.

Foundation honors Elvin Bethea, Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee/Anheuser-Busch executive

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

DURHAM - Elvin Bethea, 2003 Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee and director of special programs for government affairs at Anheuser-Busch, was honored for his athletic achievements and election to the Pro Football Hall of Fame by the N.C. Legislative Black Caucus Foundation on June 20.

Bethea's career highlights include being selected to play in eight Pro Bowls and named first- or second-team All-American Football League/American

Football Conference six times and second-team All-Pro four times.

In his remarks to the caucus, Bethea spoke of teamwork and dependability both on the field and in the workplace.

"I learned a lot on the playing field in Greensboro (N.C. A&T University) that they don't teach in the classrooms, such as the importance of dependability and teamwork," Bethea said.

"For the past 20 years, I've worked for a Fortune 500 company that is dedicated to the community - all communities -

and that takes responsibility seriously. And I've seen that teamwork and dependability are important off the field, too."

Bethea said that Anheuser-Busch is proud to be the industry leader in protecting the environment, helping prevent alcohol abuse and supporting communities where it does business. For example, Anheuser-Busch and its wholesalers contribute to the African-American community through its partnerships with local organizations across the country, such as the Nation-

See Foundation on C9

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