Women's shelter begins fund-raising campaign

By KARI BARLOW baff Writer

The Orange/Durham Coalition for Battered Women has launched a fund-raising campaign to aid the search for a new location in Durham.

The coalition has already received commitments of \$55,000 from board members. Shelter officials want to purchase a house, renovate it and maintain facilities such as a kitchen and a fenced yard, said Susan Ross, the campaign co-chairwoman.

"We think we will need \$150,000," Ross said. "We are moving forward on all fronts now, hoping to raise the money by the spring.

Shelter officials have planned to move the current facilities from Orange County to Durham because of the increasing need for services there. About 75 percent of the calls that the shelter receives come from Durham, but only 34 percent of shelter residents are from Durham, according to Ross.

Durham County has a larger population than Orange County, which explains the call for more shelter services in Durham, she said.

Safety problems at the shelter's present location have also influenced the coalition to relocate in Durham, she said.

"The Orange County location is in a neighborhood that's not perceived to be safe," Ross said.

Not only potentially unsafe, the shelter location is becoming well-

known, which is dangerous for the women seeking protection, she said.

"You can hide in Durham better than you can hide in Chapel Hill," Ross said.

The present shelter has three bedrooms and can house 11 people. Ross said the coalition wants to find a new house with six or seven bedrooms.

"We'd like to be able to take care of 22 people," Ross said. "We'd like a central location that is convenient to stores, schools and bus lines."

Although no specific area in Durham has been designated for the new shelter, Ross said the coalition expects to be in the new house by the summer of 1988.

The Orange County shelter will then become an overnight emergency shelter to house women and children who need immediate shelter and women who are emotionally ready to venture out on their own, but cannot financially afford it.

Shelter officials will not disclose its location to ensure the safety of its boarders, but this is not a significant problem for the fund drive, according to Carolyn Falletta, chairwoman of the board.

"I think most people understand," she said. "We have a wide range of funders."

The coalition also receives state, county and city funding and aid from organizations such as the United Way.

Theatre workshop presents collection of opera scenes

By ALSTON RUSSELL

The UNC Opera Theatre Workshop will present "An Afternoon of Scenes From American Operas" today at 4 p.m. in the Hanes Art Center auditorium for all those who enjoy operas or want to learn more about them.

The show will involve four 20thcentury operas ranging in topics from the problems of immigration in Lower East Side New York to the events of a small mining town in Colorado at the turn of the century. The pieces performed will include "Down in the Valley" and "Street Scene" by Kurt Weill, "Candide" by Leonard Bernstein and "The Ballad of Baby Doe" by Douglas Moore.

"This is a real good introductory afternoon for opera," director Terry LaGarde said Monday. "It (the show) has both humor and sadness, but all of the pieces are tied together with love themes." LaGarde said the entire show is in English, so it is readily accessible to everyone.

The performance results from a workshop that LaGarde has been conducting. All 12 members of the workshop, varying from student to community citizen to faculty member, will participate in the opera.

According to LaGarde, the production process has been a group effort. For the most part, the props and costumes have been supplied by

individual members of the cast. Many of the singers participate in more than one aspect of the production, she said. For example, the pianist for the show, Frank Pittman, will sing during one of the pieces while LaGarde plays the piano.

Cast members said the most important aspect of performing an opera is being ready to react to whatever may happen onstage. "It's a matter of being independent and also reacting to someone else at the same time," Pittman said. LaGarde said one of the non-speaking actors was a 4-yearold boy, making it crucial for the other actors to be able to react to whatever may happen.

Another obstacle which faces the performers is trying to keep their own personalities separate from the characters they portray onstage. "The hardest part is not being Billy onstage but being the character and not letting Billy get in the way of that character,' said member Billy Hagwood.

Such challenges involved with this opera prove to be pleasing, according to members of the cast. "Stepping into another character different from yourself is challenging because you have to combine everything - music, action and drama," member Ann McCloskey said.

LaGarde said the most difficult part of the production is focusing on both the music and drama. "I'm trying to coordinate both arts and





Billy Hagwood and Janice Silbermann in workshop rehearsal

develop other abilities," she said. Three of the pieces are for the musical theatre, an art form which involves more drama and some dialogue.

This collection of opera scenes was chosen to further develop the talents of her workshop participants, according to LaGarde. "I wanted pieces that are challenging for them," she said.

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LaGarde teaches voice lessons at UNC. Although this is her first directing job, she has sung and acted in off-Broadway productions, has acted as a voice coach and has conducted orchestras. LaGarde was an undergraduate at UNC and earned a doctorate of musical arts at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y.

Ronald Reagan conservatism," Berger said. "We're looking at the

