# #83

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## Q1

**About Candidates** 

Candidate Name Julie von Haefen

District HD-36

Party Affiliation Democrat

Campaign Website www.juliefornc.com

### Q2

Q1. Please tell us about your personal experiences with nonprofits. These may include experiences with any organizations that have served you and/or fellow residents of your community, or specific nonprofits for which you've served as a board member, staff person, volunteer, or donor. How do these experiences shape your policy positions? (Limit: 300 words)

I decided to run for office because of my advocacy work in the nonprofit sector. I have been involved in the public schools in Wake County and North Carolina for the past ten years, as a Parent Teacher Association leader at the school, county, and state level. I served as a Board Member, Vice President, and President of both Washington Elementary PTA and Wake County PTA Council. I also have served as a Board Member for the North Carolina PTA. I have been a volunteer with Meals on Wheels for years, which has shaped my priorities on healthcare legislation for the aging and elderly. I regularly volunteer and donate to other nonprofits across the county.

#### Q3

Q2. If elected, what would be your top three policy priorities? (Limit: 250 words)

My top priorities are to increase education funding so that every child in NC has access to a sound basic education, to expand Medicaid and provide access to affordable healthcare to hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians, and to protect every North Carolinian's right to reproductive freedom.

#### Q4

The Center advocates on public policy issues that affect North Carolina's nonprofit sector and works with the NC General Assembly and North Carolina's members of Congress to develop laws and policies that save nonprofits time and money, help nonprofits operate more effectively, and preserve the public's trust in North Carolina's nonprofit sector. Our policy agenda includes: Ensuring that all 501(c)(3) nonprofits are fully exempt from federal, state, and local taxes. Promoting new and expanded tax deductions and credits that encourage individuals and businesses to give generously to support their communities through the work of charitable nonprofits. Supporting policy solutions that will address the nonprofit workforce shortage, including increased funding to support jobs in the nonprofit sector and investment in accessible and affordable child care. Seeking solutions to long-standing challenges that nonprofits face when they provide public services through government grants and contracts, including late contracts, late payments, overly complicated application and reporting requirements, and underpayment for indirect costs. Promoting laws that will help nonprofits and businesses alike to provide affordable and high-quality health care and other benefits to their employees.Q3. If elected, which of these policy goals would you support most enthusiastically, and why? (Limit: 250 words)

I have done significant work to support the childcare industry in our state. Early childhood educators make an average of \$12/hr despite being tasked with the most important job in our state: nurturing the growing minds of our children. Low wages are causing more and more teachers to leave early childhood education for higher-paying jobs elsewhere. When childcare centers lose teachers, they also lose the capacity to provide childcare to everyone who needs it, creating scarcity and driving up childcare costs for families. Our legislature must invest in solutions, like increasing our childcare subsidy rate, that support the childcare industry and help lower childcare costs for all families. I have also introduced legislation that would fully fund universal pre-k in North Carolina and that would provide additional support to community-focused programs like Smart Start.