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Page 1: With responses published for community leaders throughout your district

## Q1

About Candidates

Candidate Name	<b>Lisa Mead</b>
District	<b>Wake Commissioners - 3</b>
Party Affiliation	<b>Democrat</b>
Campaign Website	<b><a href="http://www.lisaforwake.com">www.lisaforwake.com</a></b>

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## 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 started my very first post-college job at a non-profit, Child Care Services Association, in Chapel Hill. Outside of a three year span I taught public school, my entire career, over twenty years, has been working for non-profits in the triangle area. These include: Durham Crisis Response Center, Interfaith Council/Project Homestart, WakeEd Partnership, NCPTA, and a global public health organization. I have served on boards, as an employee, and am currently president of the NC Grant Professionals Association. I also hold my CFRE credential. For full details you can look at my qualifications here: [www.lisaforwake.com/about-9](http://www.lisaforwake.com/about-9)

My non-profit experience has given me empathy and the ability to see the services we provide as a social services safety net. Non-profits fill an essential need in our community and I am proud to have built my career supporting them.

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### Q3

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

Affordable housing is a complicated but critical issue. There are many definitions of affordable housing and many different ideas about how to ensure it, but as county commissioner, I'm most interested in building consensus. We have all seen housing costs increasing dramatically, and we know that it has disproportionately impacted low income and fixed income residents, particularly in our communities of color. I want to work with these communities and other groups who are priced out of housing in our area, such as public servants, and our municipalities to develop solutions that work for everyone. I believe public-private partnerships are a part of that. I believe innovation is a part of that. And I believe strong social services are a part of that.

The service provided to our country by our military members should not be ignored. Funding and establishing a Veteran's court to address the specific needs of those who served our country and better supporting our large Veteran population that resides in Wake County would be one of my objectives.

As the daughter of a retired educator, a parent, a former teacher, graduate of public schools, and a current WCPSS substitute, I know first-hand that a robust public education system is the foundation of our community. One of my priorities would be to expand early childhood educational opportunities by working with local agencies to ensure needs are met for all families. Additionally, we need to hold our state elected officials accountable to fully fund our public schools, so that we can maintain quality teachers and staff.

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### 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)

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 is the policy issue I most identify with. As a professional grant writer and fundraiser, and as President of the NC Grant Professionals Association, I know all too well the difficulties we face when seeking funding from the local, federal, and state government. I believe we can streamline our policies and procedures to allow oversight but also be more efficient.

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