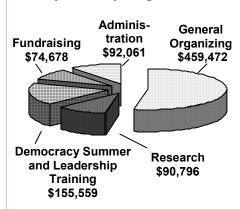
### **How Did My Donation Help In 2008?**

It was a big year for activating voters and implementing public financing. Here's a pie chart of our expenses.

#### **Expenses By Program Area**



#### **Count Me In For 2009**

Here's my tax-deductible donation (payable to Democracy North Carolina)

□\$50	□\$100	□\$500	□\$
☐ Sign me up to receive <u>occasional</u> email Action Alerts or news items.			
Name:			
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Address			
City:			State:
Zip:	Pho	ne:	
Credit Card Donation: ☐ Visa ☐Mastercard Exp. Date:			

Mail to Democracy North Carolina,

1821 Green St., Durham, NC 27705

Or donate online at www.democracy-nc.org

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Jenn Frye, Ashley lam Sotak, and Tia illo, Isaac Coleman, ret McCreary, Gray Spring 2009

Democracy North Carolina 1821 Green Street Durham, NC 27705-4114

# **DEMOCRACY NORTH CAROLINA**

# **DEMOCRACY ADVOCATE**

# It's Less . . . and More for 2009

**OF THE PEOPLE** 

You're invited to read about

our activities in 2008

(literally, all over the map),

plus Democracy Summer

for 2009 and our other work

to put people at the center

of NC politics. Please visit:

www.democracy-nc.org

Did you know that NC led the nation as the state with the biggest jump in voter turnout over 2004? And our "Voter-Owned" public financing program now covers more statewide offices

than any other state.

We'll be building on these successes in 2009 with a larger network of energized partners. Our goals:

- ▶ LESS big money in politics
- ► MORE voters at the polls

To reduce the power of big money, we will push lawmakers to take the next steps for public financing:

- Expand the new program for the Council of State to cover the 5 remaining agency heads;
- Strengthen our nationally acclaimed program for judges;
- Authorize more cities to begin their own programs (and begin Chapel Hill's this year);
- Build momentum for public financing for legislative races in NC and for Congress.

We will also work with the Coalition for Lobby Reform to limit, and require disclosure of, donations given by political appointees and major state

contractors, plus pass a law requiring local governments to enact codes of ethical conduct.

In addition to ethics, disclosure, and public financing, the best antidote to big money's

> grip on politics is lots of activated voters!

We're delighted with NC's surge in voter turnout, but we must continue to bring more voters into the process. In 2009, we will:

 Push for a law to require more weekend opportunities to

vote during Early Voting;

- Improve the rules for using Same-Day Registration;
- Explore ways to educate and engage youth; perhaps link the High School civics course to preregistration for teenagers;
- Make access to absentee ballots easier for overseas and all voters, straighten out the "straight-party" ticket, beef up poll worker training, and teach ex-felons their voting rights.
- Also, reform the Electoral College and help cities adopt ways to improve their elections.

There's plenty to do. Use the inside flap to sign up for alerts and be part of more success!

## **Your Support Makes the Difference!**

In case we haven't said it enough . . . THANK YOU for your support of Democracy NC. Many of you stepped up your contribution, despite the hard times, and we are grateful. Others felt over-extended after supporting a favorite candidate or party. We understand. As we say, "Be a player in the existing system, but also help us 'win' a new system."

We envision a new system where:

- Getting elected depends on connections to voters. not access to big money;
- Candidates spend time on issues, not fundraising;
- Small contributions are as meaningful as large ones;
- Policies are chosen on their merit, without the confounding influence of political money.

We applaud your activism and your support for meaningful reform. We look forward to a year with less demand on campaign contributors, when donors can refocus on systemic reform in their action and giving. But we know all donors will be stretched in 2009.

We ask you to connect to Democracy NC's core mission of voter-owned elections and government of, for, and by the people. The current economic disaster illustrates the results of policies of, for, and by the narrow special interests. Re-orienting politics and policies to engage, educate and serve all the people will help each of us, our planet, and our future. We hope you'll be with us in 2009 as we work hard to fulfill this mission. We cannot succeed without you.

> - Molly Beacham, Director of Development and Bob Hall, Executive Director

#### \$10,000 and up

Blueprint NC Carnegie Corp. of NY Michael Warner & Elizabeth Craven Fund of Triangle Comm. Fnd. **Educational Foundation** of America JEHT Foundation Lia Fund of TCF\* Park Foundation Proteus Fund and Piper Fund Rockefeller Family Fund Z. Smith Reynolds Fnd.

Winston-Salem Fnd.

#### \$5,000 to \$9,999

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#### \$1,000 to \$4,999

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Individuals & Donor-Advised Funds: \$155,747

Foundations, Nonprofits: \$678,800 Honorarium, Interest, etc: \$51,913

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Barlow Herget

Olivia Holding

Martha & Robert Gwyn Anne & Charles Wilson Diana & Hugh Haskell \$5 to \$50 Carolina Alzuru Leon Henderson Jr. Vikki Andrews Frankie & John Hobart Dorothy L. Bell Nancy & J.B. Birindelli Sam & Beverly Brown Pete Walz & Bridgette Burge **Becky Carver** Anne Cassebaum Peg Chapin Ann Barbee Cherry Carola & Stuart Cohn Sue A. Cole Dan Coleman Linda & Rich Cooper Julie A. Covington Elsie Cunningham Patty Dale Davie County NAACP Matthew C. Davis Stephen Dear Knick Dixon Marla Drucker Max Feinbloom John S. Fletcher II Judy & Michael Frye Nichele Fulmore Abbie Gage Ellen L. Gaskill Jane & Donald Gilbert Clementine Gregory Ralph & Debra Grosswald Mary & John Hammond Harold B. Hanig Joy Vermillion & Ben Heinsohn Margaret & John Hilpert Jean Hinson Cecelia E. Horton Patrick B. Inman Wendy Jacobs Rosalyn & Teshone Jones Nancy G. Joyner

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\*TCF - Triangle Community Foundation \*\*FFC - Foundation for the Carolinas

Linda Yarnell