

## **Margaret Barclay**

Margaret Barclay, a founding member of WIN, says that her earliest role models in philanthropy were her parents.

"While they were not the wealthiest people in the community, they were extremely generous to many of those in need," she says. "My father donated the land for both a church and a school in New Bern. Since then, I have had many role models in philanthropy, but my parents were definitely my first."

In her philanthropic endeavors, Margaret is most passionate about addressing the needs of children.

"Our children are our future," she explains. "For this reason, I got involved with the Children's Museum of Wilmington many years ago. I served on the Board of Directors and my husband and I donated the Museum Store. We later established an endowment fund through the New Hanover County Community Foundation to create an ongoing source of funding for the Children's Museum for the future. I continue to stay involved with this organization."

A New Bern native, Margaret went to St. Andrew's University in Laurenberg and then moved to Raleigh, where she worked in the legislature, insurance business and soft drink industry.

Upon moving to Wilmington, she enrolled at UNCW and in 1987 earned a degree in economics and finance from UNCW's Cameron School of Business. Margaret then went into real estate, focusing on the secondary home market.

"This fulfilled a longtime dream of mine and I became one of the top producers in the marketplace," she says. "Now that I have retired, I have more time for travel, gardening and my grandchildren. In addition to WIN, I am an active member in the Cape Fear Garden Club."

Asked what she would tell other women about WIN to encourage them to join, she remembers how excited she was when she heard about efforts to establish a women's giving collective.

"The thought of a group of professional women coming together and having a greater impact than just one individual was incredible. We have such a diverse group of women who are all successful in their various fields of expertise." she says. "Through the grant-making process, we work together to analyze the grant requests and make a group decision. We are also able to learn so much about many of the nonprofits in our community. I think the growth of WIN is evidence of our success."