COVER ARTICLE

2 When You Can’t Sue the State: State Sovereign Immunity
Anita R. Brown-Graham

In five decisions dating from 1996, the same five-person majority of the U.S. Supreme Court has progressively insulated states against suits by citizens seeking remedies for violation of their federally guaranteed statutory rights. What is the reasoning behind the Court’s rulings, and how do the decisions affect major federal legislation such as the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act?

FEATURE ARTICLES

15 North Carolina’s Experiment with Family Court
Cheryl Daniels Howell

Six judicial districts in North Carolina are pilot-testing a unified family court—a separate division within the court system responsible for all cases involving family-related legal issues. Why does the state’s court system need such a structure, and how does the new family court work?

21 A Map, a Compass, Asking for Directions, and Visioning: Organizational Tools for Navigating the Future
Phillip Boyle

Strategic planning, a trend of the last few decades, has its limitations. Public organizations, under enormous pressure to respond quickly to changing conditions, might find visioning a more productive—and creative—alternative.

25 Hiring a Director for a Nonprofit Agency: A Step-by-Step Guide
Kurt J. Jenne and Margaret Henderson

Hiring an executive director is one of the most important actions that the governing board of a nonprofit agency takes. This guide, which includes model forms, provides boards with a systematic approach for recruiting, interviewing, and selecting an executive director.

DEPARTMENTS

37 From the MPA Program

Does North Carolina Need a Pharmaceutical Assistance Program for Older Adults?
Patrick Liedtka

Among older adults in North Carolina living at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, about 56 percent (roughly 275,000 people) are without insurance for prescription drugs. Such adults resort to various strategies, some dangerous, to manage their prescription drug costs. The author proposes a way for North Carolina to assist its low-income older adults in managing and paying for needed medications.