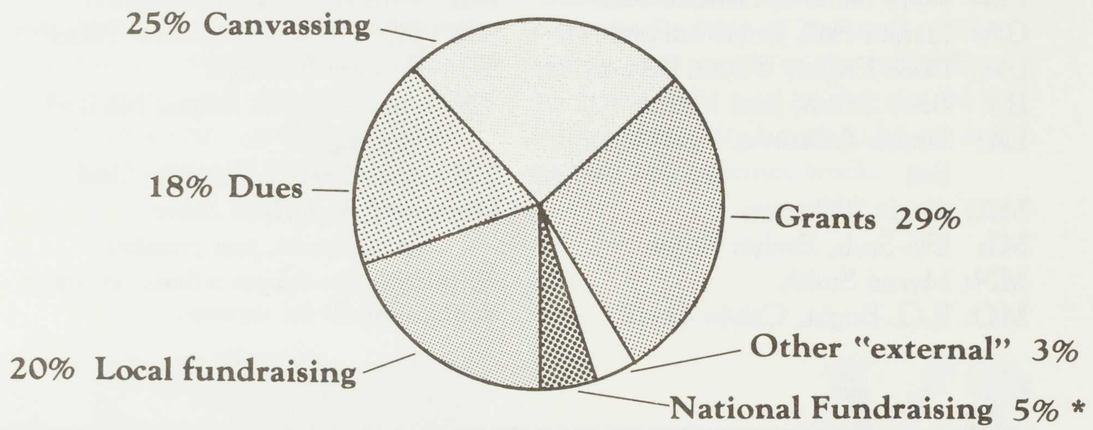
The remainder of ACORN's budget comes from "external" sources, primarily grants from churches and foundations.

ACORN's finances are controlled by the elected leadership of the organization. Each citywide or statewide ACORN board makes an annual budget and fundraising plan. All decisions about how funds will be spent are made by the board, and the local budget committees carefully review the financial picture each month. Funds are deposited locally, but disbursements, bookkeeping and an annual audit are done centrally, saving ACORN the cost of having separate administrative staff in each city.

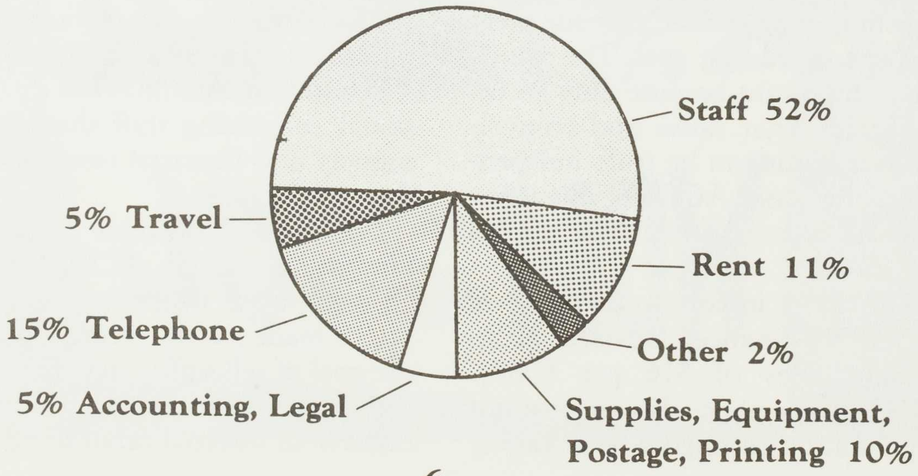
Twice a year, the national Association board reviews each state's budget and, if necessary, approves a subsidy to make up for shortfalls in income. The subsidy funds come from the canvassing program and from general support grants.

Where the money comes from



*National raffle and adbook.

Where the money goes



BYLAWS of ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FOR REFORM NOW

ARTICLE ONE: LOCAL GROUPS, AFFILIATION

1. The local community organization shall constitute the basic unit of the corporation.

2. Local community organizations organized by ACORN shall be deemed to be affiliated with the corporation.

3. The Board shall have power to make arrangements for local community organizations not organized by ACORN to associate with ACORN in manners and according to terms authorized by the Board and agreed to by the non-ACORN organization(s) which may include giving such organizations representational status on various ACORN authoritative bodies; allowing these entities the benefit of ACORN resources, etc.; provided, however, that said moves towards association be accepted by the associating non-ACORN local organization in a fashion that embodies democratic principles. Other bylaws inconsistent with this section shall be superseded by this section.

ARTICLE TWO: MEMBERSHIP

1. All individuals who are members in good standing of local community organizations of ACORN, and who agree to comply with such conditions of membership as may be imposed by ACORN, shall be members of ACORN.

2. Privileges of membership in ACORN shall include but not be limited to the right to receive information, technical assistance, and such other benefits as may be made available to the membership of the corporation.

3. Obligations of membership shall include but not necessarily be limited to the payment of statewide dues and such other obligations of membership as may be accepted by the membership of ACORN in accordance with corporate procedures, specifically including, but not limited to, the timely payment of statewide dues.

ARTICLE THREE: LOCAL GROUPS, OPERATION

1. Every local group should democratically elect officers from the general membership of the local group to carry on its local policies, represent it in various governmental ACORN bodies, and execute its actions. The officers are encouraged to be a chair, co-chair, treasurer and secretary, as well as any other officers the membership may wish to elect. The terms of the local group officers shall be for a one year period. At the first meeting of the local group, temporary officers should be elected and permanent officers or a confimation of the temporary officers should occur within three meetings or that time when the group has stabilized its membership.

2. If local groups have local Bylaws, these Bylaws cannot conflict with the Bylaws of the corporation or its statewide affiliates.

3. From the point at which the Association begins organizing a state affiliate, until its Executive Board is formed and adopts state Bylaws, the governing Bylaws shall be those of the Association for general procedures, and those of Arkansas ACORN for internal state and local operation and practice.

4. Local groups shall have the power to select local committees according to their own decisions and needs.

5. Local groups are encouraged to have meetings at regular intervals at such times as the membership decides.

6. The chairperson or other duly elected authorized representative shall have the additional function of representing the group on state and district executive boards.