



# School Sisters of Notre Dame

## *Atlantic-Midwest Province*

### Viability and Sustainability Framework Sponsored & Co-Sponsored Ministries

***Do great work –  
in the spirit of  
SSND!***

***Keep the board,  
administration,  
staffing,  
business aspects,  
and fund  
development  
working well.***

***Be ready to  
adapt and  
change.***

**Do great work** A key factor in viability and sustainability of non-profit schools and organizations is the ability to make a positive impact on the individuals it serves and on the wider community.

**In the SSND spirit** All SSND Sponsored Ministries are expected to operate out of the educational vision as articulated in *You Are Sent*.

**Keep the business side of the ministry, i.e., Board of Trustees / Directors, administration, faculty and staff, business office, and fund development, working well.** Although our sponsored schools and organizations are religious ministries, they are also, in fact, non-profit businesses, subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws. In order to continue to do good work, in the SSND spirit, these ministries have to function well as businesses, remain solvent, and comply with the law. Best practices must be employed and risks must be managed.

**Adapt and change** In order to survive and thrive, ministries have to be ready to adapt and change. To do this effectively, they have to constantly be aware of their external and internal environments, and like Mother Caroline, “perceptively read the signs of the times, and risk innovative responses.” In light of the mission, the goal for the ministry is to remain “fresh, vital, relevant, and healthy.”<sup>i</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> Non-profit Assistance Fund

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## Do great work

1. Impact
  - 1.1. Mission
  - 1.2. Evaluation
  - 1.3. Program assessment
  - 1.4. Accreditation
2. Recognition by Community

## In the SSND spirit:

1. SSND Educational Vision
2. Population Served
3. SSND values operative on all levels
4. Catholic identity
5. SSND Sponsorship
6. SSND Relationship support

## Keep the business side of the ministry, i.e., Board of Trustees / Directors, administration, faculty and staff, business office, and fund development, working well.

1. Board of Trustees /Directors
2. Administrators
3. Faculty and Staff
4. Volunteers
5. Fostering a collaborative and innovative culture
6. Human resource practices
7. Business practices
8. Finances
9. Fund development / marketing
10. Facilities and infrastructure

## Adapt and change

1. Disposition toward innovation and change
2. External environment – what is going on outside the ministry
3. Internal environment - what is going on inside the ministry
4. Strategic capacity