



MISSION STATEMENT

The National Advocacy Center (NAC) works at the federal level to encourage just policies, to challenge unjust policies, and to develop positive alternatives when needed so as to be in solidarity with those on the margins. Through its activities, NAC serves as a voice for the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd and Partners in Mission in the United States, bringing their concerns to national legislators, and informing the sisters, their partners, and the public at large about its social justice focus areas.

CORE VALUES

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

NAC reflects the spirituality, history and mission of the Congregation, working in solidarity with those on the margins - particularly families, women and children. Inherent in our values is a focus on the dignity of the human person.

FOCUS AREAS

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

Issues that primarily impact women, children and families on the margins, including but not limited to immigration, poverty, racism, violence, human trafficking, environmental degradation, and U.S. policies that affect the Good Shepherd mission worldwide.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE ONE:

To amplify the U.S. voice of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd by better connecting its individual, corporate, and allied works to the National Advocacy Center.

OBJECTIVE TWO:

To provide educational forums on NAC focus areas and their related issues.

OBJECTIVE THREE:

To develop a plan for NAC sustainability that includes fundraising, staffing, succession planning and evaluation.

STRATEGIES AND TIMELINE

OBJECTIVE ONE: *To amplify the U.S. voice of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd by better connecting its individual, corporate, and allied works to the National Advocacy Center.*

ACTION STEPS:

1. Develop and strengthen relationships between NAC and the Congregation's U.S. Provinces' individual, corporate, and allied works through deepening our understanding of our complementary efforts.
2. Network and outreach with Good Shepherd Partners in Mission, other organizations and the general public to communicate and educate on our social justice focus areas.
3. Lobby Congress and the Executive Branch to challenge or support legislation or policy issues impacting people on the margins.

TIMELINE

2019-2023 (On-going)

PERSON/S RESPONSIBLE

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| 1. Encourage visits and call-ins to NAC by persons who work in GS Ministries. | Director or designee |
| 2. Visit GS Ministries as needed. | Director or designee |
| 3. Communicate regularly through website and social media. | Staff and Communications Consultant; |
| 4. Participate in various GS Gatherings, etc. | Staff, Adv. Board Members and
Volunteers as appropriate; |
| 5. Serve on committees of other organizations, network by focus area with organization sharing the concern. | Director or designee; |
| 6. Use person-to-person meetings with congressional members and staff, action alerts, group sign-on letters. | Staff, Adv. Board Members,
Provincial Advocacy Liaison,
Friends on NAC data base |

OBJECTIVE TWO: *To provide educational forums on NAC focus areas and their related issues.*

ACTION STEPS:

1. Identify or develop in partnership with others, educational tools, trainings, or forums, leveraging the expertise of GS agencies when possible.

TIMELINE

2019-2023 (On-going)

PERSON/S RESPONSIBLE

Staff

2. Continue to offer NAC Retreats to new Advisory Board members and other interested individuals within the Good Shepherd mission network.

TIMELINE

Yearly or as needed

PERSON/S RESPONSIBLE

Staff, Board, Advisory Board

3. Offer an internship program for graduate-level students and GS Volunteers who would work on specific focus areas and projects.

TIMELINE

Year 2 (2020): Preparation and contacts
Year 3 (2021): Begin implementation

Staff, Advisory Board Volunteers
Staff, Advisory Board Volunteers

OBJECTIVE THREE: *To develop a plan for NAC sustainability that includes fundraising, staffing, succession planning and evaluation.*

ACTION STEPS:

1. FUNDRAISING

- Add to the Advisory Board one or two persons with expertise in fundraising.

TIMELINE

Years 1 and 2 (2019-2020)

PERSON/S RESPONSIBLE

Board of Directors with Advisory Board Recommendation

- Determine feasibility of fundraising for the 501c3 and/or 501c4.

TIMELINE

Year 1 (2019)

PERSON/S RESPONSIBLE

Board of Directors with Provincial
Advocacy Liaison and Staff

- Convene a Development Committee to develop a fundraising plan for fund specific focus areas and operations, with the goal for NAC to become self-sustaining into the future.

TIMELINE

Year 2 (2020)

PERSON/S RESPONSIBLE

Advisory Board

2. STAFF AND ADVISORY BOARD

Convene a committee to assess NAC staffing and Advisory Board membership, manage growth and develop a succession plan.

TIMELINE

Year 2 (2020)

PERSON/S RESPONSIBLE

Advisory Board Committee

3. EVALUATION

- Develop tools for evaluating and improving the organization's responsiveness and effectiveness to the issues of concerns, and for evaluating and improving each project's effectiveness.

TIMELINE

Year 3 (2021)

PERSON/S RESPONSIBLE

To be determined;
possibly a consultant

Note: Page 1 can be for distribution or publication. Pages 2 and 3 are internal to Board, Staff and Advisory Board and as needed in the future for review by funders should such activities occur.