June 2025 | Issue 9 | Sponsorship Office Newsletter

With deep appreciation for the commitment you have to our sponsored ministries and the work you do everyday ensuring the enduring legacy of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, we thank you. Wishing you a wonderful summer with time for rest, relaxation, and fun – however you see fit!

Deep summer is when laziness finds respectability.

- Sam Keen

Peace, from all of us in the Sponsorship Office

Katie Colin, Kim Weckbacher, Julie Dowd, Katie-Sue Scullin and Amy Jobin

Sisters Speak Out: A Day of National Advocacy



On June 24, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur across the country participated in Sisters Speak Out, a coordinated day of action addressing injustices affecting immigrant communities, human rights, and global peace efforts. The initiative, supported by Catholic social justice networks, emphasized public witness and direct advocacy with local and national leaders voicing opposition to the "Big, Beautiful Bill."

In Boston, MA, several members of the U.S. East-West Province — including Sisters Leonore Coan, Margaret Lanen, Monica Madden, and Ginny Scally, SNDdeN along with Sabrina Harper, Katie-Sue Scullin and Kathryn Yanik, Director of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) — met with

Elizabeth Rosario, Deputy State Director for Senator Elizabeth Warren (MA).

During their visit, they shared key advocacy priorities and received the following information:

- The most important advocacy right now is to reach out to friends and family members in red states, and to encourage them to contact their senators about the Big, Beautiful Bill. There are a few senators who might still vote NO!
- There are a few reports of ICE reaching out to families and saying that they are from local schools, encouraging them to come to another location to talk about their kids. We should spread the word among parents and encourage them to always call the school to verify these claims.
- Sen. Warren's office is actively meeting with ICE to encourage civility and to ensure that all agents are properly identified. This is not always successful, but they have learned that dialogue is essential to this work.
- Right now, Sen. Warren is focusing on using language about Constitutional Law, and the ways that

- the current administration has violated these rights. While it is also important to point out other areas of wrongdoing, this helps to build a coalition among people of various perspectives.
- Finally, Ms. Rosario encouraged us to continue with our advocacy, and especially education for young people. Educating young leaders for justice and issue-based advocacy is more important than ever before!

This event highlighted the Sisters' unwavering commitment to standing with vulnerable communities and advocating for human dignity, both locally and nationally.

Mission Moments

"May our lives reflect the Light that never fades — the light of God's goodness in us, between us, and through us."

> - Sponsorship Office, SNDdeN U.S. East-West Province



Happenings Across the Province

Be sure to check out the SNDdeN social media accounts - <u>Instagram & Facebook</u> - to see what wonderful things are going on within our sponsored ministries! Links also at bottom of newsletter.

National Student Leadership Conference Held at Emmanuel College

Last week, students and chaperones from our U.S. East-West and Ohio Province schools gathered at Emmanuel College in Boston for the annual SNDdeN National Student Leadership Conference. Through workshops, prayer, and community-building, students deepened their understanding of the Notre Dame mission, created relationships with students from other SNDdeN schools, and explored how to lead with courage, compassion, and faith in action.







Rest, Reflection & Renewal in Ipswich

Over thirty Notre Dame health care staff from the East-West Province gathered at the Notre Dame Spirituality Center in Ipswich, MA, for the fourth annual Healing the Healers retreat. Staff members from Julie House (Windsor, CT), St. Julie Billiart Residential Care Center (Ipswich, MA), and Notre Dame Health Care (Worcester, MA) spent time reflecting on the Notre Dame mission in health care. Sister Pat Toce, SNDdeN, offered a presentation on themes of self-care, compassion, and healthy communication. Retreatants also enjoyed a painting workshop led by Sister Louann Sciubba, SNDdeN, explored the Cuvilly Arts & Earth Center, and walked the grounds with Marcie Armstrong.

Next year's Healing the Healers retreat is scheduled for May 7–9, 2026. Mark your calendars!





Celebrating Graduation Across our Sponsored Schools

As the school year came to a close, sponsored ministries across our network gathered to celebrate meaningful moments of transition — from joyful preschool ceremonies to proud high school commencements. Each event reflected the enduring impact of Notre Dame education and the

relationships that shape it.

We are pleased to share highlights from these celebrations in our Graduation Slideshow below.



Calendar | Upcoming Events & Meetings

Please reference and bookmark our <u>Calendar of Events page</u> on the EW SNDdeN website to access more information about our events, access registration links when they go live and additional event listings.

** Download our <u>2025-26 U.S. East-West Province Sponsorship Events At-A-Glance</u> Calendar.





SNDdeN Board of Directors Orientation - East Coast

<u>Four Points Sheraton</u> | September 3, 2025 | 2:30 - 5:30 pm Program & Appetizers.

An orientation program that provides an in-person opportunity to learn, collaborate and share about SNDdeN sponsored ministry boards with newly elected directors, current directors and ministry leaders with the goal of understanding how you will contribute fully to the governing work of the board. Registration link will be coming soon.



West Coast Board Orientation

Santa Clara University | September 9, 2025 | 2:30 to 5:30 pm PT
An orientation program that provides an in-person opportunity to
learn, collaborate and share about SNDdeN sponsored ministry boards
with newly elected directors, current directors and ministry leaders
with the goal of understanding how you will contribute fully to the

governing work of the board. Registration link will be coming soon.



Partnering in Mission

New Faculty/Staff Mission Orientation

Zoom Sessions | 3:45 & 6:15 pm ET / 12:45 & 3:15 pm PT

An orientation program welcoming new teachers and staff into the network of Notre Dame de Namur sponsored ministries and schools. Participants receive a certificate at completion of the program. More information and registration coming soon.



SNDdeN School Leaders Conference

WHERE MISSION MEETS THE MOMENT: Notre Dame de Namur Leadership Today

Royal Sonesta Harbor Court, Baltimore, MD | November 17, 10 am - 19, 1 pm 2025 | <u>REGISTER NOW!!</u>

All school administrators and leadership teams are encouraged to attend! Agenda and registration coming soon! <u>Book your rooms now!</u>



West Coast Hallmarks Retreat

Villa Angelica, Carmel, CA | February 24-25, 2026 | Save the date
Faculty and staff of Notre Dame de Namur schools during the first several years
of their tenure are encouraged to attend this retreat to deepen their
understanding of the 7 Hallmarks & connect with colleagues across the network.



East Coast SNDdeN Educators Symposium

Notre Dame Academy, Hingham, MA | March 13, 2026 Save the date for this dynamic program being offered to faculty and staff from all Notre Dame de Namur learning communities.



East Coast Hallmarks Retreat

Spirituality Center, Ipswich, MA | March 24-25, 2026 | Save the date
Faculty and staff of Notre Dame de Namur schools during the first several years
of their tenure are encouraged to attend this retreat to deepen their
understanding of the 7 Hallmarks & connect with colleagues across the network.

East Coast Healing the Healers Retreat

Spirituality Center, Ipswich, MA | May 7-9, 2026 | Save the date

Any staff members from the Notre Dame de Namur health care facilities are



encouraged to attend this day-long retreat for rest, reflection, and socializing with fellow staff from Notre Dame de Namur health care facilities throughout New England. Opportunities to learn more about the spirituality of the Sisters, and optional meditative walks, gardening, yoga, and art. Option to spend the night at the retreat center for those who would like.

U.S. East-West Province Sponsorship Office

30 Jeffreys Neck Road Ipswich, MA 01938 https://snddeneastwest.org/









Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur | 30 Jeffreys Neck Road | Ipswich, MA 01938 US

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