

How Stewards Make Decisions

- First, look at all expenditures as investments in mission.
- Second, how much mission do you get out of this investment? How much money?
- A high mission outcome *may* allow for a low financial outcome.
- A low mission outcome mandates that you make money.

Return on Investment

High

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Low

<p><u>Consider</u>, based on strategic plan.</p>	<p><u>Proceed</u>, <i>if</i> it matches a core competence</p>
<p><u>Avoid</u> if at all possible</p>	<p><u>Consider</u>, based on strategic plan.</p>

Low

MISSION RETURN

High

Stewardship Decision Tree

- This decision tree only works if you consider decisions carefully, and as a group.
- If any answer is "NO", you should re-evaluate and start over.

Decision tree – part one.

1. Does this action support our mission?

Does it increase the amount of mission?

Does it improve service quality?

Does it strengthen the organization?

Can we measure the outcome?



2. Does this action keep us focused on our priorities?

Is it specifically included in our strategic plan?

Does it involve a current core competence?

Does it develop a new core competence?



Decision Tree – part two

3 Do we have adequate information to decide?

Service impact?

Financial impact?

Staff and administrative impact?

Legal impact?



4. Have we applied appropriate business analyses?

Feasibility study and/or business plan?

Cash Impact?

Budgetary impact?

Impact on Quality?



Decision Tree – part three

5. Have we consulted appropriately with these stakeholders?

Board?

Staff?

Funders?

Service Recipients?

Community?

Consultants?

If the answer is “YES” to all of these, then moving ahead is a possibility.

There will always be extenuating circumstances, but this guide will help you stay on the stewardship track.