



**PETER B. GUDAITIS, M.DIV.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO**



Mr. Gudaitis currently serves as Executive Director & CEO of New York Disaster Interfaith Services (NYDIS) and its affiliate the NYC Emergency Shelter Network, Chair of New York VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster), and President of the National Disaster Interfaith Network (NDIN).

Founded in 2001, NYDIS is a 501(c)(3) federation of 62 faith-based human service providers, charitable organizations and faith communities working in partnership to provide disaster readiness, response, and recovery services for New York City. NYDIS collaborates with local, state, and national organizations to facilitate the delivery of non-sectarian spiritual care, relief, recovery services and planning support - as well as providing mitigation education, preparedness training, and risk communication tools to the New York City faith sector and its partners. NYDIS' relief and recovery services are principally targeted toward under-resourced victim's families, survivors, and impacted under-served survivor communities. NYDIS' 2021 programs provided direct services to over 6,000 New Yorkers as well as training, outreach and preparedness tools and resources to 5000+ NYC houses of worship and their leaders. NYDIS' Emergency Shelter Network consists of 41 emergency respite bed sites for persons experiencing street homelessness, and one human-pet co-shelter in Manhattan.

He has over 35 years of experience in chaplaincy, disaster and public health emergency management, faith-based philanthropy, and long-term recovery - including a decade in Emergency Medical Services.

Currently, Mr. Gudaitis is a member of the Faith-based Caucus of the International Association of Emergency Managers; Guest Lecturer and Advisory Board member for the Metropolitan College of New York, Emergency and Disaster Management Program; Contributing Fellow at the Center for Religion and Civic Culture at the University of Southern California; Chair of New York State VOAD (Voluntary Organization Active in Disaster) and, on the Board of Directors of New York City VOAD since 2014.

In 2012, he was appointed to the New York State Respond Commission for SuperStorm Sandy by Governor Andrew Cuomo. In 2015, he was appointed to the New York City Charitable Organization & House of Worship Recovery Task Force by then New York City Council Speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito. Since 2016 he has been the Co-Chair of the NYC Faith Sector Community Preparedness Program Advisory Board of the NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene. In 2018, he was appointed to the New York State Puerto Rico Recovery & Reconstruction Committee by Governor Andrew Cuomo. He currently serves on the National VOAD Emotional & Spiritual Care Committee.

Mr. Gudaitis holds a B.A. from Kenyon College, and an M.Div. from the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church. He lives in Scarborough, New York with his husband of 22 years, the Hon. Anthony Cannataro, Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals, New York's high court.