



**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 Emergency Shelter Network as well as the Chair of New York VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster), and President of the National Disaster Interfaiths Network (NDIN).

Founded in 2001, in response to 9/11 recovery needs, NYDIS is a 501(c)(3) federation of over 60 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 – and supports recovery in disaster-impacted communities with a direct connection to NYC communities. 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 other resilience 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 and marginalized communities.

NYDIS has 50 employees and a \$81M operating budget funded by donations, grants, and government contracts. NYDIS' current recovery caseload includes over 6,000 Asylum Seekers and Hurricane Ida impacted households as well as Puerto Rico Evacuee clients – its resilience programs annually provide training, preparedness tools and other programming to over 10,000 lay and ordained NYC religious leaders.

In addition to many institutional awards and honors, in 2012, Mr. Gudaitis was appointed to the New York State Respond Commission 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. And, in 2018, he was appointed to the New York State Puerto Rico Recovery & Reconstruction Committee by Governor Andrew Cuomo. In 2022, he was recognized as one of City & State's Responsible 100 executives.

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 Westchester County, New York, with his husband of 24 years, the Hon. Anthony Cannataro, an Associate Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals and their dog, Luca.