



The International  
Association for Near-  
Death Studies, Inc.  
501(c)3



Hieronymus Bosch-  
The Ascent into the Empyrean

## Strategic Plan 2016-2020

This revised plan incorporates our organization's Vision Statement, Mission Statement, Value Statement, Core Values and Strategic Goals developed during a rebranding effort completed in 2015. Lists of goals and objectives supports this plan to achieve progress in the areas of Research, Education, Support and to Enhance our Organization. We hope to maintain an annual report of actions completed.

All of our efforts continue to provide support and inspiration to the near-death experiencer and others who have had spiritually transforming events. We strive to expand understanding and awareness of these events by using social media outlets and hosting an annual conference. We will conduct our operations in such a manner as to maintain our nonprofit status, yet acquire sufficient income annually to maintain a small full time staff and the appropriate equipment and systems to operate efficiently.

The following Executive Board Members have read this plan and approve of its intentions as indicated by signature.

Diane Corcoran  
President

Robert Mays  
Treasurer

Bob Frank  
Vice President

Linda Truax  
Secretary

Original signed and dated March 2016

## **IANDS Strategic Plan 2016-2020**

**IANDS Vision Statement:** We envision a future where people from all walks of life, religions and cultures will look at near-death and related experiences as a source of meaning and inspiration for a better world.

**IANDS Mission Statement:** Through research, education and support, IANDS is dedicated to creating a greater awareness and understanding of near-death and related experiences.

**Value Statement:** We believe a near-death experience can transform an individual's life, influence the sciences and embolden society.

### **Core Values**

- **Inclusivity:** We welcome multidisciplinary viewpoints in the search for greater understanding of these experiences.
- **Community:** We connect and support people who are interested personally or professionally in such experiences.
- **Responsibility:** We honor, promote, and publish discussion of balanced, research-based and thoughtful views about near-death and other related experiences.

### **Strategic Goals**

**1st Goal: Support - Promote the understanding that near-death and related experiences are normal, valid and common phenomena. Recognize and assist experiencers in the integration of these experiences.**

Expand our support to individuals and groups in a manner that promotes the understanding that near-death, at-death, and related experiences are normal, valid, and common phenomena. Assist experiencers, their families, caregivers, and participants in local support groups in the integration of these experiences into their lives using literature, informational programs, referrals and personal contact.

Grow the membership. Build an incentive program for starting new groups and to build on existing groups. Enhance communications between the groups and the office. Examine existing guidance for managing groups to determine where changes are needed. Expand and enhance relationships with international groups.

**2nd Goal: Research - Encourage scholarly investigation of topics related to the organization's mission. Publish the Journal of Near-Death Studies.**

Enhance and promote the conduct of research projects, encouraging scholarly investigations in diverse disciplines, and enabling informed examination of topics related to the organization's mission. This includes testing the feasibility of providing fellowships and/or scholarships to a variety of

institutions. Continue to support the JNDS editor promoting high scholarly standards and the use of valid research protocols.

During the next six years, enhance access to existing and future copies of the JNDS to professionals and researchers. Maximize use of digital technologies and expand the databases of experienter surveys in a format that will be researchable. Collaborate with other organizations and individuals having similar research interests. Promote awareness of the experienter databases for use by researchers.

**3rd Goal: Educate - Offer conferences, lectures and other programs for 1) experiencers, 2) the public at large, and 3) professional communities.**

Expand visibility and access to known and experienced speakers. Increase attendance at the annual conference and collaborate with like organizations.

Increase international visibility through conferences and translating existing resources into different languages. Expand the inventory of educational materials and organize them in an efficient manner. Expand our interface with other internet resources.

Develop an Education Program using various modalities to include webinars and speaker and writing coaching to encourage the distribution of relevant information to appropriate people or groups. Build a program to support and educate civilian, military and Veterans Administration providers about veteran NDEs. Investigate the need for a prison outreach program.

**4th Goal: Enhance Organization - Enhance the IANDS office structure and operations in a manner that utilizes the best of management principles.**

Expand fundraising efforts which support our operational needs, education programs and support outreach.

Improve access and availability of NDE information – NDE accounts and videos, using digital technology.

Focus on using the latest technology to enhance daily operations and management of personnel, financial assets, facility, website use and internet interfaces. Also focus on means and procedures for the greatest development and effectiveness of the office staff, Board of Directors, Committees, and collaborative partners.