

ISTSS Strategic Plan & Priorities

Revised and Approved by ISTSS Executive Committee, 12-16-2010

ISTSS Mission:

ISTSS is an international interdisciplinary professional organization that promotes advancement and exchange of knowledge about traumatic stress.

This knowledge includes:

- Understanding the scope and consequences of traumatic exposure,
- Preventing traumatic events and ameliorating their consequences, and
- Advocating for the field of traumatic stress.

Goals and Objectives

Goal #1: Professional Community

ISTSS inspires innovation in the various activities of traumatic stress professionals. We provide a unique forum for respectful exchange among a diverse¹ membership.

Objective:

- a. Create the perception and reality of the “right professional home.”

Goal #2: Dissemination and Collaboration

ISTSS is a diverse and inclusive organization that emphasizes collaboration in the exchange of knowledge and in the development, dissemination and implementation of evidence based and emerging best practices for all different types of trauma and populations.

Objectives:

- a. Increase the effective interchange among scientists, practitioners, organizations, and policymakers.
- b. Increase the multi-directional influence of evidence from clinical practice and research and policy.

Goal #3: Societal Impact

ISTSS contributes to the health and resilience of people and communities in the face of traumatic events.

Objectives:

- a. Promote public awareness.
- b. Inform public policy.

Goal #4: Promotion of Science and Clinical Practice

ISTSS engages its members in advancing traumatic stress science and uses research to improve prevention, and clinical care, promote resilience, and inform public education and public policy.

Objectives:

- a. Increase the effective interchange among scientists, practitioners, organizations, and policymakers.
- b. Increase the multi-directional influence of evidence from clinical practice and research and policy.

¹ ISTSS diversity is broadly construed along all dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, nationality, political beliefs, and other ideologies.

Goal #5: Global Relationships

The ISTSS operates within a new business model that is responsive to issues, members and stakeholders from all nations.

Objectives:

- a. Identify and resolve the key global issues, particularly those that impact relationships with affiliate organizations.
- b. Implement structures and practices that promote effective relationships with affiliate and other organizations in order to fulfill the ISTSS mission.

Goal #6: Organizational Excellence

As a scientific and clinical society, the ISTSS operates within a model that is inclusive, transparent and sustainable.

Objectives:

- a. Become a strategic board.
- b. Empower and engage membership in work and decision-making.

Overarching Strategies Addressing Multiple Goals and Objectives**OVERARCHING STRATEGY: SHIFT TO STRATEGIC OVERSIGHT**

1. Shift board more to strategic oversight and less hands on work.

OVERARCHING STRATEGY: UNDERTAKE GLOBAL RELATIONSHIPS INITIATIVE

1. Undertake the process of involving key stakeholders from a variety of organizations in a process of identifying issues, examining relationships, proposing potential actions and solutions, and attempting to reach consensus about a new business model for ISTSS.

OVERARCHING STRATEGY: FOSTER MULTIDISCIPLINARY PARTICIPATION AND EXCHANGE

1. Create forums for interchange, foster mutual learning, and provide opportunities for collaboration among scientists, practitioners, and policy makers at ISTSS annual meeting, in the *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, in *StressPoints*, and on the new website.
2. Restructure the conference to insure there is appropriate representation of topics reflecting the range of our constituencies.
3. Expand initiatives to increase global participation in the annual meeting.
4. Increase our webinars and insure that they include an interactive portion.
5. Expand efforts at learning collaboratives not just for therapy, but also for assessment, program evaluation, policy, and research.

OVERARCHING STRATEGY: ASSESS MEMBER INTERESTS & NEEDS IN MULTIPLE AREAS VIA DATA COLLECTION

1. Undertake information gathering and data collection processes to assess the interests and needs of members and potential members of ISTSS in relation to national, regional and global concerns.
2. Conduct an ongoing series of short web or email surveys to bring forward member opinions, needs, desires and experiences.

OVERARCHING STRATEGY: ESTABLISH TRAUMATIC STRESS AS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE

1. Establish traumatic stress as a major public health issue for research, practice, and policy at all levels (e.g. from community clinics to national and international governing agencies).
2. Frame and promote traumatic stress as a public health issue to colleagues, policy makers and the general public.