

# Disability Awareness Training Newsletter

## AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT - 24 YEARS OLD



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### Recent News

[Mental illness cases swamp criminal justice system](#)

[Tracking Device Proposal Gains Momentum](#)

### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN OUR TRAINING?

While all first responder agencies are in need of disability awareness training, most have yet to receive it. The overwhelming positive response by the certified trainers confirms the significance of our program. While NYS is the

Dear David,

As we celebrate the historic signing of the ADA 24 years ago this past Saturday, we are reminded that, while we have come a long way, we still have a long way to go. Understanding, learning, and constant awareness are imperative to proper response. Proper response is more than training - it's a commitment and dedication. Our sole purpose is to provide you with all the tools, resources, materials, and educational opportunities to allow first responders to achieve this goal.

### U.S. Department of Justice to develop disability training for police

**U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder** has announced plans for DOJ to develop training on law enforcement response to people with disabilities, focusing on people with cognitive disabilities.

Niagara University's Disability Awareness Training program will be contacting the Attorney General's office to offer assistance. "While we applaud DOJ's recognition of the need for this program, we want to ensure the federal government provides training that encompasses the disability spectrum," Project Director David Whalen said. "With our law enforcement training that has proven successful in the state of New York, we feel we can offer valuable insight that can benefit the nation's law enforcement community."



[Click here to view the article](#)

NU will begin its training program in the state of **Arkansas**, with the Project Director spending a week with first responders and the disability community in mid-October. Arkansas will be the second state in the nation to have a comprehensive program for its first responders.

### Upcoming Events



If you haven't already, please consider registering for our webinar **THIS THURSDAY JULY 31, "Disability Awareness Training: A Train the Trainer Program for First Responders."** Project Director David Whalen will be joined by Amherst (NY) Police Chief John Askey and Buffalo (NY) Police Captain Patrick Mann. They will detail how to properly train law enforcement in disability awareness and response. This webinar is presented by **the Arc's National Center for Criminal Justice and Disability** as part of their ongoing webinar series. [Click here to register.](#)

only state in the country to have this training, we are now offering it to any department across the nation. Please contact us on how to bring this program to your region.

### ATTENTION: NYS FIRST RESPONDER TRAINERS

If you have gone through and received your certification to be a trainer, please let us know when you are scheduling your department's training.

### Upcoming Trainings

#### [Fire/EMS Train the Trainer - Monroe County NY](#)

Tues Sept 9 7pm-10pm  
Weds Sept 10 7pm-10pm  
Tues Sept 23 7pm-10pm  
Weds Sept 24 7pm-10pm

#### [LE Train the Trainer - Monroe County NY](#)

Weds Sept 10 8:30-4:30  
Thurs Sept 11 8:30-4:30

#### [Fire/EMS Train the Trainer - Rockland County NY](#)

Fri Sept 26 7pm-10pm  
Sat Sept 27 8am-5pm

#### [Fire/EMS Train the Trainer - Ontario County NY](#)

Fri Oct 3 7pm-10pm  
Sat Oct 4 8am-5pm

#### [Fire/EMS Train the Trainer - Niagara County NY](#)

Mon Nov 3 7pm-10pm  
Weds Nov 5 7pm-10pm  
Thurs Nov 6 7pm-10pm  
Mon Nov 10 7pm-10pm

#### [Fire/EMS Train the Trainer - Montgomery County NY](#)

Fri Nov 14 7pm-10pm  
Sat Nov 15 8am-5pm

Looking ahead to the fall, the NU FRDAT office has confirmed **Firefighter/EMS trainings** in the following New York State counties: **Monroe, Rockland, Ontario, Niagara, and Montgomery**. Monroe County will also be hosting **Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Train the Trainer** on September 10 & 11.

As per our relationship with the state of New York through our grant, all trainings are FREE to NYS first responders. If you are interested in this training and are not located in New York State, you are still welcome to attend. Please contact us for rates.



Project Director to present at the **New York State Probation Officers Association Conference** at the Niagara Falls (NY) Convention Center on August 7th. Dave will also present at the **New York State Police Juvenile Officers Association Conference** on August 27th in Syracuse, NY.

### Project Director to present at FEMA Workshop

Project Director David Whalen has been asked to sit on a panel at the **FEMA Region II Individual and Community Preparedness Workshop** in New York City on August 12. Dave will be asked to present some of his best practices for preparing the whole community in emergency situations. This whole-community approach ensures that through collaboration, individuals and communities will be better prepared and more resilient.



There is no fee to attend. [Click here to register](#).



### EMS online training production

NU FRDAT has begun production of online training for emergency medical services personnel, with an anticipated rollout in fall 2014. FRDAT intends to work with the **Center for Healthcare Education** for national certification that would provide eight credit hours. Watch our website or this newsletter for more details on the end product.