

Niagara University
First Responders Disability Awareness Training
Advisory Council Minutes
Thursday, October 10th, 2013

Present: Dr. Timothy Ireland (Niagara University), David Whalen (Project Director), Samantha Morgan (Project Manager), Janine Hunt-Jackson (Project Assistant), Dominick Busco (Project Intern), Jay Bowers (NYS DDSO), Edward Gehen (Retired West Seneca Police Chief), Richard Hermanson (Self Advocate), Robin Hickey (NYS DDPC), Undersheriff Holder (Chautauqua Co. Sheriff's Dept.), Sarah Lanzo (WNYL), Renay Moran (Epilepsy Assn.), Tanja O'Brocta (P2P of WNY), Julie Phillipson (NFB), Michael Reid (FASNY), Lisa Scalzo (Opportunities Unlimited), Ann Scherff (Parent Advocate), Capt. Maria Walker (Albany FD)

Absent/Excused: Mjr. Robin Benziger (NYS Police), Chief John Buttino (OPWDD), Tim Czapranski (Monroe Co. EMS), Peter Drew (represented by Lisa Scalzo), Janice Fitzgerald (represented by Tanja O'Brocta), Bonita Frazer (MH Emergency Planning Council), Dan Hausman (OFPC), Jon Kemp (Main-Transit FD), Capt. Patrick Mann (Buffalo PD), Sarah Milko (Autism Up), Heather Randolph (represented by Sarah Lanzo), Jim Zymanek (Amherst Emergency Services)

- I. Welcome/introductions – everyone introduced themselves
 - A. Review of 6/6/13 minutes – one correction made – II.C.b.i. missing the word 'paid', should read "most firefighters are not *paid* which challenges..." Mike Reid motioned, Renay Moran second; minutes approved after correction
- II. Firefighter/EMS Train the Trainer
 - A. TTT rollout
 - a. Debuted Sept. 18-19 in Albany – 10 participants
 - i. Great audience and input
 - ii. Captain Maria Walker from Albany FD participated – materials easy to use and present, great layout. Capt. Walker noted biggest challenge is changing the culture of fire departments in embracing our program and what it means.
 - iii. One participant already conducted a training that night – also noticed issue of changing the culture/bringing sensitivity into the dept.
 - b. Suggestion of giving awards/recognition to departments who conduct training and personnel displaying good technique/interaction in any incidents
 - c. Upcoming trainings (scheduled for weekends) – NYS Fire Academy Oct. 19-20, Nassau Co. Nov. 15-16, Erie Co. Nov. 20 & 25 and Dec. 4 & 10, Onondaga Co. Jan. 24-25, Westchester Co. March 7-8
 - d. Otsego and Ontario counties asked to host as well
 - B. Outreach
 - a. Constant Contact e-blast, we are utilizing this form of email which enhances our ability to outreach and has options built in.
 - b. Follow-up fax, email, or mailing as well as postings to Facebook pages the flyer and applications to all surrounding fire departments not signed up. A more aggressive way to get the program in front of those that have not replied with a trainer.
 - i. Provided number of individuals with developmental disabilities and group homes in their county as part of our approach.
 - c. Attending Vital Signs Conference Oct. 24-26 in Buffalo; Mike informed Dave of best way to utilize our time and presence. FASNY and EMS council have graciously donated table space for NU FRDAT.
 - C. Schedule – mentioned above
 - D. EMS online training (Year 4-5 funding)
 - a. PowerPoint presentation converted to online format
 - b. Looking to produce in December 2013 to rollout in January 2014
 - E. Train the Trainer Training
 - a. Alleviates travel for Project Director
 - b. Develop pockets of trainers (NYC, Rochester, Albany, etc.) where they are now doing the training through direction of NU

- c. Issue of funding; these individuals need to be paid for their time and funding is not available but will be identified when it does become available.

III. Law Enforcement

A. National outreach

- a. Presented at National DDPC Conference in Washington DC in July 2013
 - i. 8 states expressed interest (ex. Guam, American Samoa, AK, VT, MO, NJ)
- b. Law enforcement much higher priority than other disciplines due to incidents that call to light the challenges and media coverage of those incidents.

B. Maryland

- a. Ethan Saylor incident (MD man with Down Syndrome died in police custody)
 - i. MD Governor signed Executive Order to mandate disability training for LE – “Ethan’s Law,” started a Commission.
 - ii. Department of Justice awarded the National ARC \$400,000 grant to develop institute on law enforcement and people with developmental disabilities (victimization, abuse, offenders, etc.)
 - 1. Project Director communicating with woman in charge
- b. Project Director met with MD training commission and partners, conducted webinar with National Down Syndrome Society. NU is the lead entity to bring the training to the state. Governor O’Malley and Dr. Tim Shriver (heading Commission) are aware of FRDAT and have inquired about it.
- c. MD will be first state to mandate disability awareness training for LE

C. Other places of interest – may attend National Sheriffs Association conf. in Ft. Worth, TX

D. NYS plan

- a. First LE round completed – looking to bring second round across state
 - i. Only 2 of 52 departments have reported doing training
 - ii. Undersheriff Holder suggested we make short videos with officers, or for Dave to invite officers to accompany him, to share stories of incidents so trainees experience training in a more personal and graphic manner. Noted Buffalo officer who had to shoot woman with child and now shares his ordeal with other officers. Dave replied that he hopes to incorporate local officers in training when we begin to go across the nation. Video production has begun on cerebral palsy.
- b. State police working on nailing down an initiative to bring 8 hour disability training to academy, Dave met with Trooper Johnson last month. Challenges exist, waiting to hear back on the plan for NYSP.
- c. NYPD – NU President Fr. Maher mentioned us to Dr. O’Keefe, Deputy Commissioner of training. They have a relationship from their time together at St. John’s.
 - i. Bronx ILC also working on small 2-3 hour training in NYPD precinct.

E. Other

- a. FRDAT developing more videos – pulling over person with cerebral palsy, general video on cerebral palsy (working with local police departments)
 - i. Suggestion to keep them quick, can show in roll call and count for credits
- b. Idea to do online LE training, DCJS suggested as they see this being used more frequently.
- c. NYS Justice Center – toll-free hotline to report abuse
 - i. Problem 1: only state troopers notified of hotline. Police departments do not know their responsibilities but have to respond to these calls
 - ii. Problem 2: self-advocates can only report to OPWDD still?
 - iii. The parent advocate mentioned a concern re: people reporting family members if/when hearing raised voices. She pointed out that families argue and voices tend to rise during arguments. She was concerned about police investigations and violation of privacy in what tends to be a private and non-abusive matter.
 - iv. Will tie into new National ARC Center
- d. Concern about only installing disability training in academies but NYS mandates 21 hours of training every year
- e. LE leaders have a genuine concern for this training, officers just aren’t fully aware of impact

- f. Need to focus on community resources, stress identification and outreach/cooperation among disciplines (ex. functional needs registries)
 - g. Upcoming Chiefs of Police article featuring Project Director article
 - h. Suggestion to develop curriculum for corrections field and hospital staff
 - i. Undersheriff Holder mentioned that Chautauqua County now has "Smart 911." This allows pictures & information about people with disabilities to be stored on the system. If a person with a disability is in another county with Smart 911 technology and is involved in an emergency situation, their info is available for reference. While this is somewhat costly, the undersheriff stresses it is definitely a good investment. It has a fee but is the wave of the future. Dave aware of Monroe county contact who is also the President of the NYS 911 operators Assn.
- IV. Sustainability – DDPC has extended grant to Year 4 & 5 at \$100,000 per year.
- A. Sponsor outreach (see Corporate Sponsorship attachment)
 - a. Not overly aggressive on this approach but have met with NU administrators who support the initiative.
 - b. Reached out to 7 or 8 familiar local entities – interest from one insurance company
 - c. Easy funding – promote their product on FRDAT
 - d. Golisano (funded new NU science building) aware of FRDAT
 - e. May pitch to the 100 Club or its individuals
 - f. Goals: expand staff/council, develop more products, outreach, commercial
 - B. National DDPC conference
 - a. Each state has its own DDPC with grants – attempt to "sell" FRDAT product across country
 - C. Grants/Foundation
 - a. As previously mentioned, Golisano is aware of FRDAT – has his own foundation
 - b. Suggestion to create FRDAT Foundation to self-sustain (fundraisers, donations, etc.)
- V. Niagara University
- A. Intellectual Property – FRDAT property owned both by Project Director and NU
 - a. Currently in process of legalizing all material
 - B. BA/MA in Developmental Disabilities – Project Director has active role in curriculum review
 - a. Degrees in disability field becoming a new trend
 - C. Institute – working on new FRDAT label/logo
 - a. Disability Awareness Response Training (DART)?? Suggestions welcome
 - D. Video/online training development – university has the capacity at minimal to no cost
- VI. Website
- A. Mental Health – Eric Weaver's "Overcoming the Darkness" link added to Training tab
 - B. Reorganized – Articles of Interest, Upcoming Trainings (Constant Contact online registration), better layout
 - C. Emergency Management – added under Resources tab, includes videos and links to websites
- VII. Town Hall Training
- A. Funding opportunity – DDPC grant, 3 years - \$50,000 per year through NYSILC
 - B. Municipal associations – help with outreach, push municipal employees to attend
 - a. NY Conference of Mayors & Municipal Officials, NY Association of Towns, NYS Association of Counties
 - b. 4 sessions coming up in Syracuse, Albany, Rockland, and Niagara
- VIII. Other
- May be changing FRDAT name/acronym – accepting any ideas or input (ex. Disability Awareness Response Training – DART)
 - May look to get FRDAT into Criminal Justice courses/curriculum at NU
 - Access Buffalo program coordinated with WNY Independent Living at NU as well
 - Richard Hermanson – Self-Advocacy Association Conference coming up
 - Mike Reid – State EMS Council has created new mandate starting May 2015
 - i. EMS must carry controlled substances (ex. medications to control seizures)
 - ii. EMS backing up law enforcement for "excited delirium" incidents – law enforcement realizing it is a medical condition and call EMS

iii. New direction – Article 30 of Public Health Law: EMS becoming pre-hospital medical services, bridge between EMS as emergency response and community response, “Community Para-Medicine”

1. Hospitals beginning to close ERs, developing free-standing emergency departments

IX. Next meeting – February 6th or 13th, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha L. Morgan
Program Manager

Niagara University First Responders Disability Awareness Training Corporate sponsorship

GOLD-\$50,000 (1)

- Link on website homepage, identified as gold sponsor
- Logo on brochure, prime placement
- Personal presentation at all trainings, in the absence of the sponsor, NU will introduce the company and product
- Informational materials put out at all training sessions
- Business card giveaway; opportunity to receive attendees contact information through item giveaway
- Program Director relationship; direct line to the office and ability to use NU to advise, receive information, and discuss strategies with potential customers
- Disability Awareness Training for your company
- Exclusivity, NU is only seeking one Gold sponsor
- One state can have the Train the Trainer program brought to them on your behalf. This would be for one discipline.

SILVER-\$25,000 (2)

- Link on website, identified as silver sponsor
- Informational materials at all training sessions
- Brief introduction of product by trainer
- Program director relationship; direct line to the office and ability to use NU to advise, receive information, and discuss strategies with potential customers

BRONZE-\$10,000 (3)

This level allows you to indicate your support of this very important topic while exposing your business to an array of first responder entities. It can also be an opportunity for a business that wants to reach out to a specific region to get their name out there.

- Link on website, identified as bronze sponsor
- Informational material at select training sessions
- Program director relationship; direct line to the office and ability to use NU to advise, receive information, and discuss strategies with potential customers.
- Disability Awareness training for the company

ONE-TIME SPONSOR (\$2000)

This allows a company to sponsor a single event such as training, presentation, or conference. The sponsor can select a location and NU will work with them to set up a program or event that suits the company's interest. Travel costs may need to be added, and will be established relative to the location of the event.

- Informational material set out
- Opportunity to introduce the presenter with brief introduction of company or product