

Niagara University
First Responders Disability Awareness Training
Advisory Council Minutes
Thursday, October 11th, 2012

Present: Dr. Timothy Ireland – Niagara University, David Whalen – Statewide Project Coordinator/Niagara University, Samantha Morgan – Graduate assistant, Mike Stoddard – Graduate assistant, Jim Zymanek – Emergency Management Town of Amherst, Bonnie Frazer – MMRS Mental Health Coordinator, Jason Goldstein – Deaf Adult Services WNY, Julie Phillipson – National Federation of the Blind NYS Chapter, Mike Reid – FASNY Director, Tanja O’Brocta – WNY Parent to Parent Coordinator, Heather Randolph – WNY ILC, Robin Hickey – NYS DDPC, Renay Moran – Epilepsy Association WNY, Ann Scherff – NYS DDPC/Parent representative, Kevin Neidermaier – NYSEMA, Chief Jon Kemp – Main-Transit FD, Jay Bowers – WNY DDSO, Pete Drew – Niagara County ARC

Absent/Excused: Janine Hunt-Jackson – Project Assistant, Captain Patrick Mann – Buffalo PD, Under Sheriff Chuck Holder – Chautauqua Co. Sheriff’s Dept/LETDANYS, Sarah Milko – UNYFEAT/Parent, Captain Maria Walker – Albany FD, Dan Hausman – FPC NYS Office, Janice Fitzgerald – Parent to Parent NYS, Kerry Wiley – NYS DDPC, Walter Reisner – United New York Ambulance Network, Susan Prince – EMT/Onondaga ARC, Chief John Buttino – Eggerstville Fire Chief/OPWDD Fire Representative, Chief Ed Gehen – West Seneca Police/Chiefs of Police Association NYS, Tim Czapranski – NYS EMS Council, Tiffany Moore – Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled, Major Robin Benziger – NYS Police, Kathy Shaw – NYS DOH EMS

- I. Introductions – everyone introduced themselves
- II. Review of June 7th, 2012 minutes – Jim Z. motioned, Renay M. second; minutes approved as written
- III. Train the Trainer (TTT)
 - a. Law enforcement – LE product is 95% done. Product consists of a trainer manual and thumb drive with PowerPoint divided into 16 modules to

allow for shorter/split up trainings. Dave passed near finished manual around. Length is identified at 8 hours, set up in modules to allow depts. to train in timeframes that work for them.

- i. DCJS – has approved product and will assist in rollout through their office. Buffalo, Amherst, and Troy PDs are all on board for mandatory training. The hope is other depts. see the worth and make it mandatory. We would also like to see academies incorporate the full training into their curriculum.
 - ii. Rollout – going to print next week. Rollout on November 6-7 in Albany County at the Troopers academy training, November 28-29 in Monroe County, January 30-31 in Suffolk County.
 - iii. Certification – DCJS stated they will look to move to certify the program. This calls for the Commissioner of DCJS and then the Municipal Police Training Council approval.
 - iv. NYS Chiefs of Police – podcast is being finalized that NU did with this assn. We have also been invited to add to their handbook a section on DAT.
 - v. Law Enforcement Training Directors Association – Dave presented at October 4th conference in Saratoga, positive response from several training officers/counties.
 - vi. Dave also discussed lack of response from NYPD; however, he will continue to pursue and may implement “plan B”.
- b. Fire – FR-DAT has developed a good relationship with FDNY, they have a positive response and intake towards the curriculum.
- i. Product – review of basic product is being done. Ensuring customized product that is a combination of Fire and EMS needs. As has been stated by this council and others in the field, no need to do a separate program at this stage.
 - ii. Target date –end of November. Jim Z. mentioned best route may be to implement it into the Firefighter 1 Curriculum Certification material, which is coming out soon. Noted were the challenges to add something to this curriculum.

- iii. NYS OFPC – will be used as an avenue to introduce curriculum to fire departments. Dave is meeting with them on Monday, Oct. 15th. Also suggested was to look into new fire officer training (Capt. /Lt).
 - 1. Academy 10/15/12 – last training for State Fire Instructors and Fire Protection Specialists. OFPC had NU introduce to this audience over the course of the year as many may be the trainers. One issue is compensation when they do train.
- iv. Other – Jim Z. mentioned developing a fire officers' course for the leadership among fire departments. Jon Kemp mentioned bringing FR-DAT to the State Chiefs Fair and Chiefs Association.
- c. EMS – the State EMS Council has shown support and EMTs seem to be the most excited among first responders about FR-DAT. Still trying to decide how to reach all EMS because they are stand-alone councils. Dave working with DOH EMS but needs to establish how they can best assist with moving program forward. There are 18 EMS Councils that we need to go to, will look to send letters to reintroduce program.
 - i. Online training – Full Circle Studios has the capability, Dave saw set up a few weeks back, it is what we're looking for. There is no set timeline as this is being identified as a need in extended year 4-5 funding. Discussion about CME annual recertification being about 30 hours and 3 or 6 hour online training would be great for ease of access and shorter trainings. There was much discussion about how to implement this program – fitting it into other training regimes versus offering it as a stand-alone class, how to decide what is most important and what material can be taken out to keep it simple.
 - ii. FASNY EMS 2013 – seminar in February/March in Long Island and Montour Falls to introduce to EMTs through this assn., attendance expected to be high.
- IV. Website – an apps section, news scroll, and sign language video have all been added to the site. Staff has been trained to edit and keep updated. Working on making sure all parts are accessible. Robin H. reviewed the site

with Dave and Dr. Ireland for further input. Council members were asked to review and site and provide input.

- V. Trainer Network – we purchased Hudson Valley ILC product and are using as base for trainer curriculum. Program will call for criteria for disability advocates, parents, or service providers interested in training under the auspices of FR trainers with application to ensure individuals are capable, have some experience in training, and can be effective in this setting.
- VI. Sustainability – grant officially ends next October 31, will know in December about extended funding for Year 4-5 from DDPC. Funding would need to address extended programs, currently identified as 911 operators, emergency room personnel, and emergency management personnel, as well as online training.
 - a. Fee for service – calls have come in, mainly from Volunteer FD, for Dave to do the training. This would call for a fee as we cannot accommodate individual requests (the reason for the Train the trainer), of which NU has set rates reflective of location and travel.
 - b. Product – We have had inquiries from beyond NYS regarding the program. This would be more than just a material purchase (includes resources, PowerPoint, contacts, web training, etc.)
 - i. National conference connection; Dave went to National ADA coordinators and Dave and Tim went National Crime Victims Network conference. One intent was to get connected nationally with entities that would have an interest in bringing the program in for fee. We are members of both organizations
 - ii. DDPC – asking for two more years as long as there is development of web-based apps and discipline customization.
 - c. Corporate sponsors – reaching out to fire insurance companies and fire vendors. This is seen as an easy way to bring in money.
 - d. Grants – last option for funding as with most grants there are a new set of measurable objectives and goals to abide by. This would take up time we may not have. That said, we do continue to look for grants that are similar to our mission and would be applicable (i.e. Jeremiah Lucey Fund for municipal FD- \$25-50k).

- e. NU Institute process – Dr. Downs (Academic Vice President) wants FR-DAT to be a national accredited institution. Dave and Dr. Ireland have submitted a strategic plan and meeting with the VP to develop and maintain this idea.
- VII. Town Hall Training – trainings in Auburn and Niagara.
- a. Employee training – trainings for Buffalo and Erie county employees, working on Amherst. This is a 2-3 hour program designed for municipal employees who don't need the full 7 hours.
 - b. Police chief training – meeting with Cornell to discuss Town Hall Training, FR DAT and more specific Police chief program. This is more administrative and gets into areas not covered in detail in Law enforcement training such as accessibility, Project Civic Access, and employment.
- VIII. Other – discussed bringing 911 operators and *second* responders into DAT because information is lost in the transfer and each level needs to be aware. The resource manual is in its fourth and final copy – copy editor has reviewed. Will be printed as a ring binder. Idea is that we can't provide for EVERY first responder but every department will receive.
- IX. Next meeting – Thursday February 14th, 2013 (tentative)

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha L. Morgan
Assistant to the Coordinator