

Niagara University
First Responders - Disability Awareness Training
Advisory Council Meeting
February 4th, 2011
Minutes

- Present: **Dave Whalen**-Statewide Project Coordinator, First Responders-Disability Awareness Training-Niagara University; **Kelly Mullaney**- Assistant to the coordinator, First Responders- Disability Awareness Training-Niagara University; **Bonnie Frazer**- Mental Health Emergency Planning Coordinator, Metropolitan Medical Response System, Mental Health Subcommittee- Chair; **Kevin Niedermaier**- Office of Emergency Management- Livingston County, NYS Emergency Managers Assn., NYS Fire Chiefs Assn, NYSEMA; **Sarah Milko**- UNYFEAT president; **Jason Goldstein**- Program Manager: Deaf Adult Services; **Walter Reisner**- United NY Ambulance Network- Chairman, Trans Am Ambulance- COO; **Ann Scherff**- Children's Issues Committee (CIC)- Chairperson, NYSDDPC; **Sharon Winchester**- Program Research: NYSDDPC; **Richard Hermanson**- WNY Self Advocacy Assn; **Pete Drew**- Opportunities Unlimited:COO; **Undersheriff Chuck Holder**- Chautauqua County Sheriffs Dept., NYS Law Enforcement Training Directors Assn.; **Captain Patrick Mann**- Buffalo PD: Training director; **Dr. Tim Ireland** – NU CRJ/Criminology:Chair; **Julie Phillipson**- National Federation of the Blind of NYS:Secretary; **Lorraine Blum**- Parent to Parent of NYS; **Renay Moran**- Outreach Education: Epilepsy Assn of WNY; **Chief Jon Kemp**- Main-Transit Fire Dept.; **Tiffany Moore**- Court Liason, Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled; **John Moffat**- WNY Independent Living Center; **Jay Bowers**- WNY Developmental Disabilities Service Office

- Absent/Excused: **Steven Truesdale**-Disability Advocate, Project Consultant; **Chief Tom Wutz**- NYS Office of Fire Prevention and Control; **David Quinn**- Fire Association of the State of NY; **John Silvernail**, MD –NYSDOH; **Kathleen Barton**- NYSDOH- Bureau of Emergency Medical Services; **Richard Carey**-NYS Assn of Chief of Police; **Susan Prince**- EMT; **Tim Czapranski**- NYS EMS Council - Chair

I. Welcome 9:10 am

- Dr Ireland welcomed everyone to Niagara University and thanked them for being part of the advisory council.
- Dave Whalen welcome

II. Introductions

- All present introduced themselves, identifying their roles, their jobs, and/or their affiliations

III. NYS DDPC

A- Role and Purpose: Ann Scherff shared story involving son and her concerns with calling 911. Noted the need for consistency across First Responders and their response to the needs of individuals with disabilities.

B- Culmination of Grant: Sharon talked of the review for similar programs nation wide and noted that there is nothing firmly established in this area. She stated how there were 24 applicants and Niagara's application surpassed the others. The grant runs for three years. Grant began September 2010 but was not funded until November. It currently runs through October 31, 2013.

IV. NU FR-DAT

A- Objective: The objective of the grant is to develop curriculum for police, fire and EMS in Disability Awareness Training – to best allow for proper and appropriate response to individuals with disabilities. Disability Awareness Training is a sensitivity training into an education. Our intent is to be specific to the needs of First Responders.

B. Staff- Dr. Ireland is the chair of the Criminal Justice and Criminology department at Niagara. He is also the university's administrator overseeing this project. Dave is the Statewide Project Coordinator and has a background in Disability Awareness Training, which has included past presentations to fire fighters and police. Kelly is the graduate assistant of the project and the Assistant to the Coordinator. Steve is a project consultant. We are also in the process of recruiting student interns.

C- Partners: Partners are all the people at this table and the entities they represent. Other partners include Dennis Debbaudt- Autism Risk Management and an expert in emergency response to individuals with autism. Partners are one of the following: first responders, state offices, various councils, disability advocates, representative associations, individuals with disabilities, parents, and content experts. Kevin N recommended connecting with the president of 911 State Coordinators Assn. He discussed dispatch and identification of residences. Outreach has been made to numerous agencies/entities. (List displayed at meeting and attached).

V. Role of the Advisory Council Member: each person is representing their particular discipline or group. The intent is to advise the FR-DAT office relative to their area of expertise. Your input is essential to the success of this project. It is important to note that the council purposely has all who would be invested in this project at the same table. This will help all to understand the process and needs of each specific entity.

A. Specific breakdown per discipline/entity: Varies by role. There are content experts who will provide direct input per their discipline. We will need information sharing and outreach to the entity each discipline represents.

VI. Review of First Quarter

A. Intent: To identify and bring on board as many key players across First Responders, disability advocacy groups, parent programs, and other factions as appropriate. First quarter report was submitted to the DDPC.

B. Associations/Entities/Individuals Involved: See list as noted above. Not present are FASNY, DOH EMS, NYS Association of Chiefs of Police, NYS Office of Fire Prevention and Control

VII. First year Objective:

A. Current Quarter Update: We are continuing to meet with what we feel is the last remaining key players or groups, including NYPD and FDNY. We are working with advocacy groups to solicit ‘stories’ to gather precise accounts of best practices or problem situations. To note, there is no set tracking that we can find in any state system that identifies systemic incidents. We will look to develop a tracking system.

B. Curriculum Development: We will look to begin curriculum development through spring with Dave meeting with content experts. Kelly passed out a hard copy of the discipline specific content request form. By the end of the first year, we will have developed a power point train – the – trainer for the three disciplines. Beyond training, we will also be looking to work with municipalities to develop committees on disabilities through a Town Hall training program, previously developed by Dave. We will be working with Emergency Management Services relative to registries, shelters, and other needs as identified.

C. Input across FR disciplines: Niagara is looking for input from First Responders to ensure we are meeting their needs in response to the disability community, and will work with them to identify best ways to obtain that information.

D. Training Schedule: August 1- October 31 for the first year of the grant. We are committed to 15 pilot trainings which we intend to break down to 5 per discipline.

1. Conferences: we are hoping to be booked at conferences statewide to both introduce the program and to provide the training.

2. Academies: The hope is that we will be able to provide some of these trainings at the nearby academies.

3. Departmental: We will look to do some training through volunteer fire departments, and possible through specific police departments.

4. Other: EMS has continuing medical education (CME credits) conferences that FR-DAT would like to be a part of.

*FR-DAT is looking for assistance from the First Responders involved in this to assist in the identification of locations and how to best schedule these trainings.

VIII. Website: Dave and Tim have a meeting with Full Circle Studios to begin the discussion of website development and all of the needs from a technical assistance, and modes of delivery standpoint.

A. Content: Will be all encompassing to include information pertinent to First Responders. It is in the developmental stages and input is welcome.

B. Resources: We are looking to ensure that First Responders can come to this site and receive resources to best execute their job in response to people with disabilities.

C. Phases: Phase 1 is the basic website development and startup. Later phases will be as follows as identified under D.

D. Future planning: Includes what you see listed here. Other discussions have includes “apps” or applications

1. podcasts
2. webinars
3. online training

IX. What’s Next

A. Your role: Solicitation of the individuals you represent to provide steady input and eventual feedback into the development of the curriculum.

B. Correspondence: Niagara will provide regular updates and information on both what is occurring and what we will need from you. There will be frequent email correspondence but Dave will also be calling and looking to meet with specific individuals or groups over the next 4-6 months.

X. Other

-None

XI. Next meeting: Discussed June and mid-fall looking for the council to meet 3 times annually over the next 3 years. We anticipate the next meeting in June to focus on the developed curriculum. Fall's meeting will discuss the pilot trainings and the first year review.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Mullaney