

**Niagara University**  
**First Responders Disability Awareness Training**  
**Advisory Council Minutes**  
**Thursday, June 6, 2013**

**Present:** Dr. Timothy Ireland (Niagara University), David Whalen (Statewide Coordinator), Janine Hunt-Jackson (Assistant), Samantha Morgan (Assistant), Renay Moran (Epilepsy Assn.), Ashley Pacelli (DDPC), Heather Randolph (WNYILC), Richard Hermanson (Self Advocacy), Jason Goldstein (DAS), Michael Reid (FASNY), Julie Phillipson (NFB), John Buttino (OPWDD), Janie Fitzgerald (P2P), FPC Dan Hausman (DHSES), Tim Czapranski (Monroe Co. Dept. of EMS), Jim Zymanek (Amherst State Fire Inst.), Undersheriff Chuck Holder (Chautauqua Co. SO, NYS LE Training Directors Assn.), Sarah Milko/Ann Cole (Autism Up), Kevin Neidermaier (OEM Livingston Co.)

**Absent/Excused:** Capt. Patrick Mann (Buffalo PD), Bonnie Frazer (MH Emergency Planning, Metro. Med. Response System), Kerry Wiley/Robin Hickey (DDPC, represented by Ashley Pacelli), Tanja O'Brocta (P2P, represented by Janice Fitzgerald), Ann Scherff (Children's Issues Committee, DDPC), Mjr. Robin Benziger (NYS Police Academy), Walter Reisner (Trans Am Ambulance, United NY Ambulance Network), Kathy Shaw (DOH), Maria Walker (Albany FD)

- I. Welcome/Introductions – everyone introduced themselves
  - A. Review of 2/14/13 minutes – Jim Z. motioned, Heather R. second; minutes approved as written
- II. Firefighter/EMS Train the Trainer
  - A. 'Pilot' rollouts
    1. Evaluation comments: FR-DAT trainings were overwhelmingly identified as being too short, while initial Train the Trainer saw it as too long. Discussion ensued, position of FF/EMS in attendance is to keep it as is.
    2. FF/EMS workgroup after Advisory Council meeting to discuss these concerns. Dave has invited Chief Ben Keller and Asst Chief Bill Taylor, who went through the FF/EMS TTT to join us today. They also work for NYS OFPC.
  - B. FASNY conferences – Suffolk County and Montour Falls
    1. Introduced to EMS audience of over 400 total attendees at their annual conference.
    2. Highly successful – 80 signed up to be TTT when we roll it out. This gives us a big jump when we set dates.
  - C. FF/EMS workgroup
    1. Things to discuss:
      - a. Delivery and how to do this so as to attract as many attendees recognizing travel challenges and Volunteer FF and their everyday job responsibilities during normal business hours, when this is usually conducted. The session held on March 26-27 has NYS OFPC send 8 personnel from around the state. There were 8 registrants from local VF, however six did not show.
      - b. Harder to get FF to travel to trainings
        - i. LE paid, most firefighters are not paid, which challenges how their time is spent both in additional training and ability to attend either TTT or DAT once it's delivered. We have invited Commissioner Garnell Whitfield to the work group to represent both his dept. and the interests of municipal FDs.
        - ii. How do we get our program to be recognized as a priority?

- c. Train the Trainer *Trainer* (TTTT) network for FF/EMS
  - i. Compensation for trainers; State Fire Instructors (SFI) are compensated when they train, however, we cannot offer that and OFPC probably won't reimburse them.
  - ii. More opportunities, help to become more receivable
  - iii. Train the Trainer training (TTTT) would have regional trainers doing the role Dave currently has. Important for FF/EMS because they will not travel as far for training as LE does. For example, when training was offered for LE in WNY, officers came from Chautauqua, Livingston, and Genesee counties to attend session in Amherst at Erie county academy. This would not occur with FF/EMS. It may be challenging to get them to travel from one county to another.

D. Scheduling of TTT

- 1. NU; would do a few on campus and in Long Island. Connections made at FASNY February 2nd conference for locations.
- 2. Fire academy; Dan suggested Dave talk to Dave Martinichio at the Fire academy to schedule weekend sessions, which is common for FF to attend. Room/board is inexpensive.
- 3. Statewide – no problem traveling but could utilize TTTT
  - a. Regional breakdown/sites; need to identify beyond NU, LI, and academy.
  - b. As stated, FDs may not travel, we go to them
- 4. Scheduled Schenectady County September 18-19 for debut of fall series.

E. EMS

- 1. Information sharing
  - a. Definite difference in content – FF/EMS may be too long because disciplines aren't separated
    - i. Fire doesn't need as much info
    - ii. EMS interest very high, approved to count towards training credits
- 2. Network – least supportive structure but EMS attendees have had most interest in program.
  - a. Sent letter to all 18 EMS councils promoting FR-DAT
  - b. Looking into spring conference in Rochester, 2014 Vital Signs in Syracuse
  - c. Oct. 2-3 State EMS council meeting in Troy. Tim C recommended reconnecting with this group. Dave introduced program a few years back.
- 3. DOH EMS - missed Vital Signs conference this year but will try 2014 conference in Syracuse
- 4. Mike McEvoy is the EMS chair for NYS Fire chiefs Assn, meeting held 5/31- discussion points:
  - a. Revisit/call DOH, meet with Lee Burns, who oversees DOH EMS.
  - b. Getting word out through agencies (FASNY, State Chiefs, etc.)
  - c. Buffalo EMS conference is now being held. Continue to look at these types of conferences to introduce program.
- 5. Other comments
  - a. Need to finalize product, much of this will be accomplished with the work group. OPWDD also providing comments on end product.
  - b. EMS online training being drafted – small fee for NYS, a bit more for out-of-state

### III. Law Enforcement

- A. Review of TTT sessions – evaluations summary was distributed to all
  - 1. Amherst PD has completed their own training
  - 2. State police TTT possibly in December
- B. Attendance – positive response but not enough numbers
- C. Round Two – rollout concluded, want another cycle across NYS but not yet funded
- D. Online training – getting more popular, accreditation
  - 1. DCJS asked about online training, credits, can be used in any setting
  - 2. Difficult to pull officers off the street so definitely a good option
- E. On campus TTT June 24-25, 14 officers representing 5 depts registered. This will close out the LE DAT TTT for the grant, however, we will pursue funding for another round next year. There will be stipulations including pre-registration numbers being respectable.
  - 1. National outreach; we opened this session up nationally using Sgt. Herrington (NCLEA), who sent out to her connections and placed on policetraining.net. No registrants beyond WNY.

### IV. Sustainability

- A. Year 4-5 funding approved by DDPC
  - 1. Continue current trainings, especially FF/EMS rollout, adding 911 Operators curriculum. Dave met with NYS Operators Assn President and Genesee county head dispatcher to review content, ready to move fwd with development. Both also sit on the State committee and will look to move this into standard curriculum.
    - a. Need to keep in mind new technology and how they will apply training
- B. Other funding potential
  - 1. Call from Texas Office of Aging & Disability Services – RFP coming out for LE
- C. Institute progress – the intellectual property questions are cleared up, NU will now move fwd on the Institute.
- D. National DDPC Conference – Dave to present, Washington DC July 9-10, this will expose the program to all other DDPCs in the country. Our hope is some will look to use our program, build us into their grants or encourage to subcontract with NU.
- E. Foundations/corporate sponsors; Dave to meet with NU administration to establish protocol. He feels we can find several for-profits who are interested in getting their name on this product. Some have already showed interest.
- F. Marketing program; We have been working with Carr Marketing, who has advised on what we need to do to get word out both statewide and nationally.

### V. Website

- A. ASL video library added to allow for all to access words they are interested in.
- B. PayPal account for training registration/fees set up
- C. Other – list of NYS ADA coordinators added, Parking Mobility app to address parking in accessible spots.

### VI. Town Hall Training

- A. Pike County, PA – first out-of-state fee for service, to be conducted June 13-14.
- B. NYS Association of Towns
  - 1. Funding opportunity through partnership, very interested.
- C. National ADA Coordinators conference attended in Tampa in April. Extensive amount of information on Ada compliance and municipalities, some of which is directly related to FR DAT, most is related in some manner, especially with law enforcement as all are municipal employees.

VII. Next meeting – October TBD

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha L. Morgan

Assistant to the Coordinator