

Disability Awareness Training Newsletter

Peace on Earth

Happy Holidays



Dear David,

We want to thank everyone for your support throughout the year. Niagara University First Responders Disability Awareness Training program saw a lot of exciting changes and developments in 2014.

We've had productive meetings with the **United States Department of Justice** and the **Center for Healthcare Education**, been awarded grants in the states of **Arkansas** and **New Jersey**, and are putting the finishing touches on **911 Operators/Dispatcher Train the Trainer** program along with the beginnings of a **Corrections Officer** training. [Click here](#) to see a recent **Buffalo News** article featuring FRDAT.

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2015 will see the launch of a **FRDAT mobile app** along with a **new website design**. We will also host on campus Train the Trainer sessions for all disciplines in June. Read upcoming newsletters for more information. The future looks bright for NU FRDAT and we're excited for what's to come!!

CORRECTION: in our last newsletter, we listed a donation from "Sprint 711 Relay." This donation was actually from New York State Relay.

2014 Training Summary

2014 yielded the highest number of training sessions and participants since our inception. All sessions occurred in New York State with training in other states to begin in 2015.

We had four **Law Enforcement Train the Trainer** sessions: Erie County, Essex County, LETDANYS Conference, and Monroe County. 70 trainers from 37 departments participated in these sessions. The following is our most recent testimonial:

"I just wanted to take the time to thank you for the training over the past couple of days. Dave clearly has a passion for the work that he is doing and it is evident in the way he presented the material. I have attended quite a few trainings in the 11 years I have been doing this job and this one ranks right at the top. This is a topic that I didn't realize covered so much and is so important to our jobs every day. So on behalf of the Geneva Police Department I would like to thank you for the opportunity to pass along this important training to the officers of the Geneva Police Department."

- Sgt. Michael Passalacqua, Geneva (NY) PD

We also had 11 **Firefighter/EMS TTT** sessions: Erie, Sullivan,

Recent News

[FirstNet Blog: Part 2](#)

["Shining a Light on Traditionally Hidden Disabilities" \(NCJDD\)](#)

["Deaf firefighter couple blaze ahead"](#)

["For Many With Disabilities, Special Education Leads to Jail"](#)

[FEMA Webinar Series](#)

ADA National Network FEMA Webinar Series:

Emergency Management &
Preparedness - Inclusion of
Persons with Disabilities

Next webinar: January 8

[Click here to see the
schedule](#)

Are you interested in our training?

NEW YORK STATE FIRST RESPONDERS

- if you are interested in any
of our Train the Trainer
programs, we are putting
together our spring training
schedule. Contact us for
more information.

OUT OF STATE FIRST RESPONDERS

- for more information on
bringing our training
program to your region,
contact us.

Westchester, Suffolk, Wayne, Otsego, Monroe, Rockland, Ontario,
Niagara and Montgomery County. These sessions had 119 trainers
participate from 92 departments.

[Click here to see if your department has a Disability Awareness trainer](#)

Thank You Trainers!

The trainers listed below have provided our Disability Awareness
curriculum to their departments and/or other local agencies. We
appreciate their initiative to conduct this training for their colleagues.

- **Richard Beebe** - trained Greater Amsterdam Ambulance
November 2013 & Mohawk Ambulance December 2013
- **Daniel Gitel** - New York City Parks Police, trained April 2014
- **Kat Drum** - Southold Fire Department, trained April/May 2014
- **Charles Voelger** - Mastic Beach Fire Dept., trained June 2014
- **Dermot Whelan** - trained 23 POs covering 9 PDs August 2014

If you are one of our trainers and have conducted training, please
send us your rosters and evaluations. Thank you for all that you
do!

Now Accepting Donations

Niagara University First Responders Disability Awareness Training is [now
accepting donations](#)! Any amount, no matter how big or small, will help
sustain our program. We greatly appreciate your support.

Also, please [LIKE US ON FACEBOOK](#). Any growth and outreach is
greatly appreciated! Invite your friends to like our page as well.