

Disability Awareness Training Newsletter

PTSD Awareness Month



First Responders Disability Awareness Training

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New Resources

[A Guide to Visual](#)

Dear David,

While doing a training for school bus drivers a few years back, a close friend of mine informed me at the break, right after I did the section on mental health, that he now had Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). He had just returned from Iraq and had lost two soldiers in an ambush. He's doing great, but I'm always there for him.

First Responders are highly prone to PTSD. Put the time into understanding how to recognize it and be a support for peers who have it. What a difference a friend makes.

Two-Time Olympian Adam Page Speaks at Law Enforcement Train the Trainer at NU



U.S. Sled Hockey Champion Adam Page (left) with Dave's son, David.

NU FRDAT hosted a Law Enforcement Train the Trainer on campus on June 11 & 12. There were 21 attendants with trainers from CUNY & SUNY Public Safety; Niagara Falls, Orchard Park, Tonawanda, Town of Niagara, Fort Drum & Buffalo Police Departments; Erie & Niagara County Sheriff's Offices; FBI Buffalo Division; New York State Justice Center; New York State Police; and the United States Park Police. This brings the number of trained law enforcement to 192 which represents 98 departments.

At the lunch break, Project Director Dave Whalen introduced two-time gold medalist Adam Page from the U.S. Sled Hockey team. Adam shared his life journey of becoming a Paralympian and even brought in his gold medals and explained how his equipment works.

You can view the full photo album from the day on our [Facebook page](#).

[Disabilities: How Colleges Help Visually Impaired Students Succeed](#)

[Student Mental Health: A Guide to Identifying Disorders and Promoting Wellness](#)

**ADA National Network
FEMA Webinar Series**

Emergency Management & Prep
- Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities

[JULY 9, 2015 - "FEMA Promising Practice: Overnight Shelter Experiences"](#)

The Arc National Center on Criminal Justice & Disability Upcoming Webinars

[July 30 - "Sex Offenders with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities: Problems & Solutions from Around the Nation"](#)

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911 Disability Awareness Training Debuts in Two States and National Conference

On June 9th, the first official training was conducted for 14 dispatchers in Sayreville, New Jersey. The NJ Office of Emergency Telecommunications Services (OETS) recognized the program with a permanent accreditation.

This was followed by the debut of the New York State 911 Dispatch Train the Trainer in Batavia on June 22nd & 23rd. 16 dispatch trainers attended the session and provided great feedback. Some comments include:

*"Great program, long overdue for Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) setting."
- Communications Sergeant*

*"Instructor was great, very knowledgeable. Content was valuable and interesting. I think this training will be a big hit and will be around for many, many years!"
- Emergency Communications Department Dispatcher*

Between the 30 attendees, ALL would recommend the program.

Project Director Dave Whalen will conclude the debut with a presentation at the National Emergency Numbers Association (NENA) Conference in Denver, Colorado on Monday, June 29th.

The next 911 Dispatch Train the Trainer will be offered September 28-29 on campus. [Click here to register.](#)

WNY Access & Functional Needs/Core Advisory Group Work Session & Training

FEMA Region II Disability Integration Specialist Jim Flemming and NU FRDAT Project Director Dave Whalen have put together a two day, four county introduction to Access & Functional Needs and Core Advisory Group work sessions.



The intent of this program is to provide initial education and awareness on proper response to individuals with disabilities and access and functional needs. Invited are key players from each county's emergency management/preparedness departments, disability advocates, and individuals invested in the disability community.

Genesee County - Tuesday, July 14, 9:30am-11:30am
Livingston County - Tuesday, July 14, 1:30pm-3:30pm
Niagara County - Wednesday, July 15, 9:30am-11:30am
Erie County - Wednesday, July 15, 1:30pm-3:30pm

Contact NU FRDAT Project Manager Samantha Morgan at slmorgan@niagara.edu or 716-286-7355 to register.

New Jersey Debut a Success

NU FRDAT is happy to say that the first round of Disability Awareness Training sessions in New Jersey were very well received! A total of 80 first responders were introduced to the program in Middlesex County on June 9 & 10. 84% of respondents ranked the program as "excellent"

overall, with the other 16% giving it the next best ranking of "somewhat good." 98% would recommend the program to other first responders. [Click here for the evaluation summary.](#)

The second round will be at the Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center on October 13th and 14th:

Law Enforcement - Tues Oct 13 9am-noon
Firefighters/EMS - Tues Oct 13 1pm-4pm
911 Dispatchers - Weds Oct 14 9am-noon
Law Enforcement - Weds Oct 14 1pm-4pm

**Contact Project Manager Samantha Morgan
at slmorgan@niagara.edu or 716-286-7355 to register.**

NU FRDAT TRAINING SCHEDULE

July 14-15 - [WNY Access & Functional Needs/Core Advisory Group Training](#)

July 21-22 - Westchester County (NY) Fire/EMS Train the Trainer (registration closed)

Aug 3-4 - [East Camden \(AR\) Law Enforcement Train the Trainer](#)

Aug 5-6 - [East Camden \(AR\) Fire/EMS Train the Trainer](#)

Sept 15-16 - [Albany County \(NY\) Law Enforcement Train the Trainer](#)

September 28-29 - [Niagara County \(NY\) 911 Dispatch Train the Trainer](#)

October 13-14 - New Jersey Disability Awareness Training (see above)

Nov 13-14 - [Dutchess County \(NY\) Fire/EMS Train the Trainer](#)

Nov 30-Dec 1 - [Little Rock \(AR\) Law Enforcement Train the Trainer](#)

Dec 2 - Little Rock (AR) 911 Dispatch Train the Trainer (registration TBA)

Dec 3-4 - Little Rock (AR) Fire/EMS Train the Trainer (registration TBA)