

# Disability Awareness Training Newsletter

## SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY AWARENESS MONTH



**First Responders Disability Awareness Training**  
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### Recent News

[Fort Myers police officer Gil Benitez wheels man to safety, rejects hero label](#)

[Increasingly, 911 available by text](#)

[Emergency Management & Preparedness - Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities Webinar Series](#)

### ATTENTION: NYS FIRST RESPONDER TRAINERS

If you have gone through and received your certification to be a trainer, please let us know when you are scheduling your department's training.

### Upcoming Trainings

Dear Samantha,

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer and enjoys Labor Day. As you flip your calendars into September, we welcome the fall season which sees conferences and trainings back in full swing. The university welcomes back its students and the new class of 2018.

**WHAT IS SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY?** SMA refers to a group of inherited neuromuscular diseases that affect the nerve cells and the control of voluntary muscles. SMA causes lower motor neurons in the base of the brain and spinal cord to disintegrate, preventing them from delivering the necessary signals for normal muscle function.



[www.firstnet.gov](http://www.firstnet.gov)

**First Responder Network Authority to feature Disability**

### Awareness Training

On August 8th, Kyle Richardson, Public Affairs Specialist for the **U.S. Dept. of Commerce's First Responder Network Authority**, came to NU to spotlight the FRDAT program and the university. FirstNet's mission is to develop, build and operate the country's first nationwide broadband network dedicated to public safety. FirstNet will provide a single interoperable platform for emergency and daily public safety communications. This broadband network will fulfill a fundamental need of the public safety community as well as the last remaining recommendation of the 9/11 Commission. Mr. Richardson recognized the importance of including disability awareness training within the structure of their network.

### 911 Operator/Dispatchers training progressing

NU FRDAT will be presenting the Train the Trainer program at the **New York State 911 Coordinators Conference** in Rochester, NY September 9th. NU will be holding a workgroup with dispatchers September 3rd on campus. We welcome anyone who would like to join this group - please [contact us](#) if



[www.nena.org](http://www.nena.org)

interested.



[www.nyrelay.com](http://www.nyrelay.com)

On September 4th, Project Whalen will be having a with the **National Numbers Association** to program. The Project be meeting with **711** content is accurate relative and general effective communication.

Director Dave conference call **Emergency Relay** to ensure to augmentative

The final product will roll out sometime this fall.

**Fire/EMS Train the Trainer -  
Monroe County NY**

Public Safety Training Ctr  
1190 Scottsville Rd, 107  
Rochester, NY 14624  
Tues Sept 9 7pm-10pm  
Weds Sept 10 7pm-10pm  
Tues Sept 23 7pm-10pm  
Weds  
Sept 24 7pm-10pm

**LE Train the Trainer - Monroe  
County NY**

Public Safety Training Ctr  
1190 Scottsville Rd, 107  
Rochester, NY 14624  
Weds Sept 10 8:30-4:30  
Thurs Sept 11 8:30-4:30

**Fire/EMS Train the Trainer -  
Rockland County NY**

Rockland Co Training Ctr  
35 Firemen's Memorial Dr  
Pomona, NY 10970  
Fri Sept 26 7pm-10pm  
Sat Sept 27 8am-5pm

**Fire/EMS Train the Trainer -  
Ontario County NY**

Ontario Co Training Fac  
2914 County Rd #48  
Canandaigua, NY 14424  
Fri Oct 3 7pm-10pm  
Sat Oct 4 8am-5pm

**Fire/EMS Train the Trainer -  
Niagara County NY**

Public Safety Training Fac  
5574 Niagara St Extension  
Lockport, NY 14095  
Mon Nov 3 7pm-10pm  
Weds Nov 5 7pm-10pm  
Thurs Nov 6 7pm-10pm  
Mon Nov 10 7pm-10pm

**Fire/EMS Train the Trainer -  
Montgomery County NY**

Montgomery Co Off Bldg  
64 Broadway  
Fonda, NY 12068  
Fri Nov 14 7pm-10pm  
Sat Nov 15 8am-5pm

**Project Director accepts FEMA invitation**



[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

The **FEMA Office of Disability Integration & Coordination** has invited Project Director Dave Whalen to their **Emergency Management Institute** in Maryland. The purpose is to provide participants who are responsible for providing emergency planning with the information necessary to utilize disability and access and functional needs inclusive practices, as well as the additional updated skills and knowledge they will need to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies.

**FRDAT begins development of Corrections Officer training**

The FRDAT office has begun the initial stages of Disability Awareness Training for Corrections Officers. Project Director Dave Whalen met with the **Chair of New York State Commission of Correction** Tom Beilein in June. This was followed by a point person in the state office assigned to work with NU. Dave has since met with administrators from the **Niagara County Corrections Facility** and will be spending a day at the jail to better understand operations and the challenges officers face. The FRDAT office also welcomes Sociology intern Nicole Wawro, who will be assigned to this project.



[www.scoc.ny.gov](http://www.scoc.ny.gov)

**Training season kicks in**

With the onset of fall, NU FRDAT will begin its training season in Rochester, NY with a **Law Enforcement Train the Trainer** and a **Firefighter/EMS Train the Trainer**, September 9-11. NU will be traveling to Rockland County, NY at the end of September for another Firefighter/EMS session on September 26-27 as well as Ontario County, NY on October 3-4.

NU has also been asked to be the feature presenter at the **Law Enforcement Training Directors Association of New York State Conference** October 1-2 in Saratoga, NY.