

Disability Awareness Training Newsletter

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH



Dear David,

Welcome spring! Niagara University officially welcomes our new president, Father James Maher, at his inauguration on Friday, April 4th. With his presence comes new energy in ensuring proper response to all individuals.

[Response to People with Disabilities Survey](#)

If you are a first responder, please fill out our survey if you have not done so already. We appreciate your participation.

Recent News

["Police rescue deaf girls from Bremerton house fire"](#)

[Opinion piece: "First responders need help to deal with people with disabilities"](#)

[The Arc's National Center on Criminal Justice & Disability website now up!](#)

Recent Newsletters

[January 2014](#)

[February 2014](#)

WERE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE FIRE/EMS ONONDAGA CO. TRAINING THAT WAS POSTPONED?

Please confirm that you will still be attending this session, now scheduled for May 2-3, 2014.

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Upcoming Trainings

Law Enforcement Train the Trainer - Erie County
 Tuesday April 1 (8:30am-4:30pm) & Wednesday April 2 (8:30am-4:30pm) at the Erie Co. LE Training Academy in Williamsville, NY. Click link to email Scott Neff at DCJS to

Suffolk County, NY hosts successful Firefighter/EMS Train the Trainer



On March 28-29, 25 dedicated first responders attended a Train the Trainer session in Yaphank, NY. Accompanying Dave Whalen at the training was Marilyn Tucci, Advocacy & Outreach Coordinator for Suffolk Independent Living Organization (SILO). She assisted in the blind/low vision training and explained how SILO can assist first responders in outreach and any other questions they may have relative to the disability community. Also accompanying Dave was

Officer Ray Sittler, from Suffolk County PD. Ray is the father of a son with autism. He provided insight into response to individuals with autism. Ray also went through the Law Enforcement Train the Trainer in January 2013.

 [Send to a Colleague](#)

Is your community taking appropriate steps to recognize and include people with developmental disabilities? Has your municipality created a DISABILITY COMMITTEE? Have your police and fire departments received FIRST RESPONDER DISABILITY AWARENESS TRAINING? Pass this newsletter on to your peers so they are aware of our program and trainings.



Project Director to Collaborate with Niagara Falls National Heritage Area

Program Director Dave Whalen will be working with the [Niagara Falls National Heritage Area](#) to advise on accessibility/universal design throughout the region. He will be presenting to the group on May 21st at an all day session that will include the New York State Inclusive Recreation & Resource Center.

WEBINAR: Emergency Shelters, Assistive Technology and the ADA

register.

Law Enforcement Train the Trainer - Essex County

Thurs. April 10 (8:30am-4:30pm) & Fri. April 11 (8:30am-4:30pm) at the Essex County Public Safety Building in Lewis, NY. Click link to email Scott Neff at DCJS to register.

Firefighter/EMS Train the Trainer - Essex County

Fri. April 11 (7pm-10pm) & Sat. April 12 (8am-5pm) at the Essex County Public Safety Building in Lewis, NY. Click link to register.

Firefighter/EMS Train the Trainer - Wayne/Ontario County

Fri. April 25 (7pm-10pm) & Sat. April 26 (8am-5pm) at the Wayne County Public Safety Building in Lyons, NY. Click link to register.

Firefighter/EMS Train the Trainer - Onondaga County

Friday May 2 (7pm-10pm) & Saturday May 3 (8am-5pm) at the Fayetteville Firehouse. Click link to register.

Firefighter/EMS Train the Trainer - Otsego County

Friday May 16 (7pm-10pm) & Saturday May 17 (8am-5pm) at the Oneonta Fire Dept. Click link to register.

First Responders Disability Awareness Training

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Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology

WHEN: April 7th 2014 11am -12:30pm

Who should participate?

- * State and Local Government Agencies
- * Disability Organizations
- * Voluntary Organizations
- * Community Emergency Response Organizations
- * Other interested Groups

Audio Participation: 800-320-4330 pin# 358643

[Click here to participate](#)

[Click here for captioning](#)

Questions? Please contact:

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New York State ADA Coordinator Outreach



Federal law states that any municipality with 50 or more employees must have an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator. While some states, like Connecticut and Massachusetts, have a readily-available listing; the State of New York has none. Many municipalities are unaware of this mandate. NU is reaching out to every municipality in NYS to identify the individual(s) who has been assigned the role of ADA Coordinator. Taryn Hewitt, sociology intern, is contacting every municipality via a survey to address this. The current listing can be found on our website. [Click here](#).

In other news...

On March 13th, Project Director Dave Whalen spent the day at Landmark College in Putney, VT. The college serves only students with learning disabilities, ADHD, and autism. Niagara University held preliminary discussions with Landmark College regarding first responder disability awareness training coming to Vermont.

We are looking for more registrants for Essex Co. Law Enforcement and Firefighter/EMS Train the Trainer!! Click on the links to the left to register.

Project Manager, Sam Morgan, and social work intern, Dom Busco, will be attending the *Shifting Perspectives: Strengthening Community* conference/workshop in Batavia, NY on April 7th & 8th. We hope to see some of you there! [Click here for the brochure](#).