

**NEW YORK STATE EVALUATION SUMMARY**  
**FIREFIGHTER/EMS DISABILITY AWARENESS TRAIN THE TRAINER**

**23 sessions, 228 participants (220 evaluations), 161 departments**

Total NY personnel that can receive Disability Awareness Training: 17,255+  
List of represented departments in “Training Evaluations” at [frdat.niagara.edu](http://frdat.niagara.edu)

**ALL RESPONDENTS (100%) WOULD RECOMMEND THIS TRAINING**

**Do you feel you are adequately prepared to train firefighters/EMS personnel on proper response to people with disabilities? (6 missing)**

- a. I feel very prepared to present – 128
- b. I feel somewhat prepared to present – 83
- c. I will need more guidance to be adequately prepared – 3
- d. I do not feel I am adequately prepared – 0

**What part of today’s training was the most significant (or stood out) to you?**

- *Program as a whole*
  - “The entire training has made me look at the various conditions and disorders in an entirely different way. I notice there are various individuals I never connected with before.”
  - “Props to NU for putting together a wonderful and comprehensive course and resource guide for us to use and implement in the field”
  - “All in all, I was very glad that I signed up for this training. I also believe that when I bring this info back to my department, and other local departments, that my EMS peers will also feel the same benefits and growth from this knowledge. I was also (or will be) appreciative of all the talking points which are included.”
  - “Really enjoyed this presentation and looking forward to incorporating this and build a class around this subject matter.”
- *Reference materials*
  - “Really liked books and literature. A wealth of knowledge. Very comprehensive website. Where to find help the first responder needs!”
  - “How many resources there may be in the community that we wouldn’t have thought of – ways of transportation, finding a translator, etc.”
- *Videos:*
  - “Very relevant and helpful”
  - “Hearing and seeing the videos of those interviewed – the search for a diagnosis, the mistreatment by responders, the misunderstanding by responders and others not perceiving the issue(s) at hand.”

- *Presenter:*
  - “Dave’s personal interest in the topic! He gave his all to every topic – not just the ones in his personal life! Loved his enthusiasm!
  - “The excellence of Dave Whalen on subjects in program”
- *Improved interactions:*
  - “How to make their life and your job better by learning the best ways to treat and interact with those with disabilities. How they may be highly intelligent and not need your assistance and it is important not to talk down to them.”
  - “Verbiage/language. Being more aware what and how I speak.”
  - “I find it interesting to note that most if not all of the tips for dealing with patients with disabilities actually apply to all patient interactions: deescalate, calm, etc.”
  - “Excellent awareness training that can help responders be more cognizant of their own behaviors and modify them to better treat the disabled as PERSONS FIRST.”
  - “Overview of disabilities very comprehensive – tips for interaction concrete and easy to follow.”