



Greetings,

February was National Low Vision Awareness Month. Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) is the number one cause of severe vision loss in U.S. adults over age 60. The devastating condition affects the central vision of as many as 15 million Americans, impairing their ability to see normally and perform many necessary tasks. By 2030, when the last baby boomers turn 65, this number is projected to reach 7.2 million, with 5 million having low vision.

March 1st marked the start of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD), the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) and the National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) have come together again to plan a campaign for Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month 2018! The goal for this month is to create awareness about developmental disabilities, teach the importance of inclusion within every aspect of life, and to share the stories of individuals with a disability to show that a successful life is possible.

**February/March 2018**



**NATIONAL  
DOWN SYNDROME  
CONGRESS**

**The Niagara University First Responder Disability Awareness Training program is pleased to announce a half-day training program for both Firefighter/EMS personnel and Law Enforcement on July 12, 2018 at the National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC) Convention in Dallas, Texas. For more information regarding the Convention please [click here](#).**

**NDSC understands the need for first responder disability awareness training, and will be sponsoring the training to police officers, firefighters, and EMTs in the Dallas Metro area as a way to give back to the community.**

**Program Director Dave Whalen will also be presenting on safety awareness for families of and people with disabilities.**

**Master Trainer Course being Held March 12 & 13 at  
Niagara University**

**FR-DAT's Program Director will be conducting a Master Trainer course to seven chosen individuals in the areas of Law Enforcement and Firefighter/EMS on the Niagara University Campus. These candidates will be taking part in an in-depth two-day training in order to become a master trainer of the FR-DAT curriculum. This includes learning and practicing appropriate training techniques and the importance of carrying out the FR-DAT mission and values. Daily we are receiving inquiries for trainings and we are**

excited to be able to bring on more trainers to provide this essential information to more First Responders without delay.

Current Master Trainers Captain Pat Mann (Buffalo PD) and Investigator Renee Nicholls (Monroe County DA) presented the one day training to Virginia Law Enforcement while Michelle Kerr (Erie County, NY PSAP-retired) continues to travel the nation providing the 9-1-1 Telecommunicator program.



NIAGARA UNIVERSITY  
**Emergency  
Management**  
Disability Awareness Training

Program Director presents at NYS Emergency Management  
Association conference  
Trainings conducted, booked across the state

Emergency Management trainings have been completed in Niagara and Broome County with a strong foundation of advocates and emergency management personnel in the process of addressing proper response to individuals with disabilities and access and functional needs in an inclusive planning model.

Program Director Dave Whalen presented to New York's emergency managers and state officials February 13th in Syracuse with several counties/regions scheduling training on site. Eventually, every region of the state will have access to the training, with the ability to establish Core Advisory Groups and address emergency planning and preparedness as a whole community.



60+ Participants at the Niagara University  
Inaugural Emergency Management Disability  
Awareness Training

RECENT NEWS HEADLINES	RESOURCES
<p><a href="#"><u>Cranston (RI) police creating registry of children with autism, intellectual disabilities</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Once Bullied for Disability, South Carolina Deputy Now Mentors Youth</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Autism and the law: North Ridgeville boy's incarceration reveals failures of the system</u></a></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Niagara University Emergency Management Disability Awareness Training Information</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Low Vision Handout</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>My Blind Spot: To inspire accessibility for people of ALL abilities</u></a></p>

**AVAILABLE ONLINE TRAININGS:**

## **EMS online 6 hour Training Available:**

Accredited by the Center for Healthcare Education in Riverside, California, the EMS online training adapted the national Train the Trainer program into a compatible, easy to use 6-hour program. Customized exclusively for EMS in front of a live studio audience of EMTs, the training addresses the basics of all areas EMS need to know to ensure proper, appropriate, proactive response when interacting and addressing the need of individuals with disabilities.

Individual rate-\$27.50

[Click Here](#) for more information

## **Mental Health and De-escalation Training for Law Enforcement Professionals**

This training program stems from a program that was originally developed at the University of Alberta, Department of Psychiatry, to advance the mental health training of police officers.

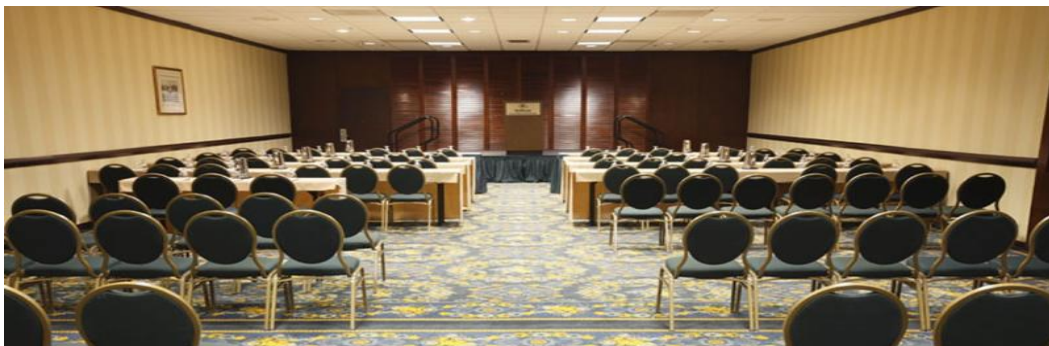
It proved overwhelmingly successful, showing increases in police mental health awareness, communication, de-escalation and empathy skills as well as an increase in police efficiency and a decrease in number of use-of-force occurrences.

[Click Here](#) for more Information

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## **Upcoming Conferences & Training Sessions**



## **March 21-22, 2018**

- Training -Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Train the Trainer - St. Lawrence County, NY
- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **March 26 & 27, 2018**

- Training - Firefighter/EMS Disability Awareness Train the Trainer - Columbia, Missouri ICE Spring Break Conference
- [Click Here](#) for more information & to register

## **April 10 & 11, 2018**

- Training - 9-1-1 Telecommunicator Disability Awareness Train the Trainer - Fenton, Missouri
- St. Clare Hospital-Krings Conference Center
- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **April 12 & 13, 2018**

- Training - FF/EMS Disability Awareness Train the Trainer - Chesterfield, Missouri
- Mercy Virtual Care Center
- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **April 18 & 19, 2018**

- Training - Emergency Management Access and Functional Needs Disability Awareness Training
- Livingston County Office of Emergency Management
- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **May 2 & 3, 2018**

- Training - Emergency Management Access and Functional Needs Disability Awareness Training
- Wayne County Office of Emergency Management
- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **May 7 & 8, 2018**

- Training - Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Train the Trainer - Newport News, Virginia

- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **May 9 & 10, 2018**

- Training - Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Train the Trainer - Chesterfield, Virginia
- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **May 14 & 15, 2018**

- Training - 9-1-1 Telecommunicator Disability Awareness Train the Trainer - Springfield, Missouri
- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **May 16 & 17, 2018**

- Training - Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Train the Trainer - Springfield, Missouri
- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **June 4 & 5, 2018**

- Training - Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Train the Trainer - Roanoke, Virginia
- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **June 6 & 7, 2018**

- Training - Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Train the Trainer - Leesburg, Virginia
- To Register [Click Here](#)

## **June 18 , 2018**

- Training - 9-1-1 Telecommunicator- NENA 2018 Conference & Expo - Nashville - Tennessee
- For more information [Click Here](#)

## **June 26 & 27, 2018**

- Training - Emergency Management Access and Functional Needs Disability Awareness Training
- Cattaraugus County Emergency Management
- For more Information and to Register [Click Here](#)

## **July 12, 2018**

- Training - Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Training - National Down Syndrome Congress Convention- Dallas TX



- For more information and to Register [Click Here](#)

## July 12, 2018

- Training - Firefighter/EMS Disability Awareness Training - National Down Syndrome Congress Convention- Dallas TX
- For more information and to Register [Click Here](#)

## July 31, 2018

- Training - 9-1-1 Telecommunicator- NENA Education Summit - Rutgers University - New Jersey
- For more information [Click Here](#)

## September 18 & 19, 2018

- Training - Emergency Management Access and Functional Needs Disability Awareness Training
- Oswego County Emergency Management
- For more Information and to Register [Click Here](#)

## October 1 & 2, 2018

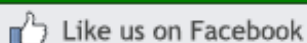
- Training - Emergency Management Access and Functional Needs Disability Awareness Training
- Warren County Emergency Management
- For more Information and to Register [Click Here](#)

## October 3 & 4, 2018

- Training - Emergency Management Access and Functional Needs Disability Awareness Training
- Montgomery County Emergency Management
- For more Information and to Register [Click Here](#)

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STAY CONNECTED:





**Join Our Trainer Network | Become a FRDAT Ambassador**

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