

Arkansas Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Train the Trainer



The Niagara University First Responder Disability Awareness Training (NU FRDAT) program is pleased to announce the inaugural Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Train the Trainer sessions in Arkansas.

If you are a law enforcement officer who has an interest in educating your peers on how to properly respond to individuals with disabilities, we invite you to register for the upcoming training session.

Developed with input from law enforcement personnel and customized for the state of Arkansas, FRDAT both sensitizes and educates police officers on how to effectively identify, address, and respond to various disabilities they will encounter in their line of duty.

This program is developed strictly for law enforcement personnel with the **intent to TRAIN other police officers** in our disability awareness curriculum. This is NOT a training session for those who do not intend to train their peers. Once trained, you will have the responsibility of conducting the training and reporting your sessions to our office.

This is a **FREE** training. All attendees must pre-register with the respective parties and be approved by the Project Director in order to attend. We hope you consider participating in this crucial training and help us disseminate this curriculum.

TRAINING SESSIONS:

AUGUST 3 & 4, 2015

(Both days 8:30am-4:30pm)

Arkansas LE Training Academy

6373 Hussey Rd, East Camden, AR 71701

NOVEMBER 30 & DECEMBER 1, 2015

(Both days 8:30am-4:30pm)

Arkansas Criminal Justice Institute

26 Corporate Hill Dr, Little Rock, AR 72205

REGISTRATION: Charles Ellis, 870-574-1810,
Charles.ellis@arkansas.gov

REGISTRATION: 501-570-8000,
kdhendricks@cji.edu or jegeorge@cji.edu

For more information, please contact:

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www.facebook.com/nufrdat



This project is funded by the Arkansas Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council

LEARNER OUTCOMES:

- Disabilities they will encounter and how to appropriately respond
- Will be able to better understand the challenges they face and how to address them effectively
- Video presentations specific to disabilities most frequently encountered with a breakdown and open discussion allow for all questions to be answered
- Educated officers will ensure proactive response that is sensitive but appropriate to challenging situations
- The ability to understand characteristics of individuals across all disability spectrums will be provided throughout the session

For more information, please visit us on the Web at frdat.niagara.edu

Project Director Biography



David Whalen founded Disability Awareness Training in 2004. he specializes in training law enforcement, emergency responders, human service providers, public/private/ school transportation, corporations and businesses, places of worship and educators.

Mr. Whalen worked for 17 years serving adults with developmental disabilities before working with low-income, medically frail seniors in a Managed Long Term Care program. He served as President of the NYS Association of Day Service Providers. He also sat on the Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day committee for 18 years.

Dave is currently the Chair of the Town of Amherst's Committee on Disabilities, President of Williamsville CSD Special Education Parent Teacher Students Association (SEPTSA) and is a CSE Parent representative for Williamsville CSD and the State of New York. He is past Chair of the Board of Directors of the Parent Network of WNY and an active member of the Diocese of Buffalo's Disability Action Team. In 2010, he was appointed by the Board of Regents to serve on the NYS Independent Living Council (NYSILC) and recently co-founded Access Buffalo. **In September 2010, he received, in collaboration with Niagara University, a NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council grant to develop disability awareness training for First Responders.** In November 2014, the state of Arkansas funded the same program. He currently sits on the NYS Office of Emergency Management human services committee and chairs NYSILC's emergency preparedness committee. He was appointed to the Erie County Disability Advisory Board and has served on it since 2010. In January 2014, Dave accepted an invitation to join the advisory council of the National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability. Also, he accepted an invitation to join the International Association of Chiefs of Police focus group—*Mental Health of Arrestees and How It Impacts Our Officers*.

He has a BA in Psychology and a MS in Education in Community Counseling from St. Bonaventure University, where he serves as the Buffalo Alumni chapter President.

David resides in Williamsville, NY with his wife Sandy and their teenage twins, David and Rachel.

Program Background

In November 2014, Niagara University was awarded a grant from the Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities to develop and customize curriculum for the training of police officers, firefighters, emergency medical services, and 911 dispatchers in the state of Arkansas. NU's first grant award was in New York, where the program began in 2011. Arkansas and New York are the only states in the nation with a fully comprehensive program. In collaboration with the Arkansas Criminal Justice Institute and the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy, program services include, but are not limited to, classroom training, a train-the-trainer program, online training, database of all departments and councils, extensive website and resources, regional disability contacts and information, podcasts and mobile applications.



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Law Enforcement Disability Awareness Training

COURSE CONTENT:

- Disabilities defined specific to law enforcement
- Victimization/abuse and the disabled
- Service provision and supports and how to develop a collaborative relationships
- Challenging behaviors and responsiveness
- Municipality role and responsibility
- Progressive approaches to addressing challenging situations
- Proper etiquette and interactions skills
- Alternative forms of communication (i.e. Speech-Generating devices, ASL)
- Comorbid/secondary & tertiary disabilities
- Durable Medical Equipment, Assistive Technology
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) specific to law enforcement
- Myths and misperceptions
- Incident review, identifying appropriate response
- Community resources and networks
- Current trends and topics



PURPOSE: Disability awareness training has tailored a presentation for law enforcement. It brings together education on disabilities while enhancing sensitivity. The presentation includes the history of disabilities, definitions, etiquette and interaction skills, the disabled perspective, challenging behaviors, and current trends and topics, all relevant to police officers.

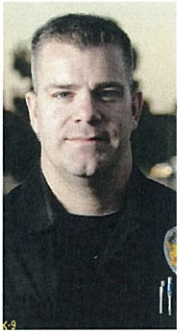
TEACHING STRATEGIES &

ACTIVITIES: Disability awareness incorporates sensitivity training so the audience can empathize with the injustices individuals with disabilities face. Videos, extensive materials and resources, federal guidelines, and current best practices will highlight the content and allow for attendees to best respond and interact with all citizens in their community.

RELATION AND IMPACT TO LAW

ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS: The ability to respond appropriately to situations, whatever the magnitude, is essential in the initial interaction involving individuals. 50-80% of interactions by an officer involve an individual with a disability and they are most often the first to respond. High profile events have exposed the lack of training and preparedness in responding to this population. This training addresses every area of response and specific interaction skills in encountering individuals with disabilities, challenges faced and how to overcome them, federal/state guidelines and supports provided, victimization, identifying and working with service providers, and the latest initiatives and programs. Attendees will also be provided with an in-depth explanation of why society discriminates against individuals with disabilities and the injustices that occur.

Train the Trainer



Our Train the Trainer program is designed to teach firefighters, emergency medical services, law enforcement, and 911 operators/dispatchers to do the First Responder Disability Awareness Training. We provide you with a working manual, complete power point presentation with talking points, handouts on each disability and relevant topics therein, community resources, state and local websites, and a resource manual. Once you complete this training, you are prepared to become the point person in your department or agency. We maintain an ongoing relationship with you, providing you with the support you need to answer any question, as well as connections with local resources and individuals who can assist you in your municipality or region.



“ The presentation offers a lot of information about a broad spectrum of conditions and disabilities. All information provided was equally useful. ”

— Fire Chief

Our curriculum offers a strong foundation in sensitivity training. It includes definitions of disabilities and the proper response to each; information on state and federal laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act; etiquette and interaction tips; person-first language and ways to overcome communication barriers; service provision and caregiver roles and responsibilities; and extensive resources. In addition, discipline-specific topics are incorporated to ensure the training meets your particular needs.

Law Enforcement

- Victimization
- Offenders with developmental disabilities
- Caregiver/parent role
- Specific encounter examples
- Service animals
- Abuse

911 Operators

- Service providers
- Speech-to-speech
- Identification of disabilities
- Augmentative communication
- Speech and communication disorders

Firefighters

- Prevention and Planning
- Evacuation
- Communication techniques
- Adaptive equipment
- Outreach and identification
- State-run and voluntary residences

Emergency Medical Services

- Durable medical equipment
- Assistive technology
- Recognition
- Transportation
- Medications relevant to certain disabilities

Emergency Management

- Planning considerations
- Sheltering and mass care
- Registries
- CERT
- Access and functional needs defined
- All-inclusive committees
- FEMA Office of Disability Integration & Coordination

“ The trainer manual was excellent. Extremely easy to follow. One of the best I have ever used. ”

— Police Training Officer



Our training is specifically customized per first responder discipline.



People depend on first responders to assist in a variety of emergencies, whether natural disasters, physical or medical needs, service, or protection. Some of those people may have some type of disability. It is imperative that first responders are prepared to assist all members of their community in order to ensure their well-being and quality of life.

The First Responder Disability Awareness Training offered by Niagara University is designed to give you the knowledge necessary to best serve and respond to individuals with disabilities. Created in cooperation with all the major first responder associations, councils and state offices, the curriculum is specifically customized for each responder discipline, providing information that is current, relevant, and easily implemented.

“ 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 appreciative of all the talking points which are included. ”

— Certified EMS Instructor

“ Soon after the training started I realized it's very relevant to the police department and first responders. Whether a person with a disability is a victim or an offender, you need to realize why this person is responding or not responding in a certain way. Also, it's good to know how to communicate. It's very important to know what to do and not to do, especially for the victim's sake. ”

— Police Captain

Programs offered include:

- Two-day single-discipline Train the Trainer
- Four-day multidiscipline Train the Trainer
- Full-day department-specific presentation
- Other options per request

Contact us for pricing.

Visit frdat.niagara.edu for more information.

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First Responder Disability Awareness Training

Educating all disciplines of first responders on how to properly interact, respond, and address all matters relative to individuals with disabilities.

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