



## Niagara University First Responder Advocacy Training (FRAT) South Dakota



**Do you want to make sure First Responders are educated on responding to people with disabilities?**

The Niagara University First Responder Advocacy Training (FRAT) for Disability Advocates provides you with the opportunity to receive the tools to work with your police and fire departments, EMS/ambulance services and your 9-1-1 Call Centers to make sure they not only know your needs, but the needs of others in the disability community.

The First Responder Disability Awareness Training project at Niagara University is pleased to announce the **South Dakota First Responder Advocacy Training** for people with disabilities, disability advocates and those invested in the disability community.

This **two-hour** training provides you with guidance on how to advocate with first responders, inform them of your needs, how to be a partner with first responder agencies, and how to become a resource for those agencies.

Upon completion of a five-step follow-up program, participants will receive a certificate and be recognized as a FRAT Advocate. There is no fee. This is a **virtual** training. **Link to attend will be provided the day before training begins.**

**WHEN:** January 27, 2022

**TIME:** 1pm-3pm CST

**For registration please visit <https://frdat.niagara.edu> or [click here](#)**

**Andrew Marcum**, PhD, has a doctorate in American Studies from the University of New Mexico. He is the program coordinator for the Center for Self-Advocacy in Buffalo, NY and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Disability Studies at the City University of New York. Dr. Marcum has served as a consultant on disability issues for the Partnership for the Public Good in Buffalo and has published four journal articles, all specific to disabilities. He is a former postdoctoral research fellow at the Center for Disability Studies and Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access at the University of Buffalo. He serves as Project Assistant for Niagara University's First Responders Disability Awareness Training.

**David Whalen** has been in the field of disabilities since 1986, founding Disability Awareness Training in 2004. He has conducted 600 training sessions, 250 of them for first and emergency responders. He has held numerous leadership positions serving individuals with developmental and other disabilities including 17 years at Niagara County ARC and Board Chair of Parent Network of WNY. Dave is a certified ADA trainer through the Region II Northeast ADA center. Dave attended the Senate Hearing on April 29, 2014 Law Enforcement Responses to Disabled Americans: Promising Approaches for Protecting Public Safety while also providing written testimony. He was recognized for his consult with the Department of Justice's Community Relations Services for work on law enforcement disability awareness training. He is a 2007 Partners in Policymaking graduate and the father of 23 year-old twins, his son has developmental disabilities.

**If you are in need of accommodations such as ASL Interpreter or Closed Caption, please contact:**

Cary Newman, Program Manager

Phone: (716) 286-8139

[carynewman@niagara.edu](mailto:carynewman@niagara.edu)

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*Funding for this program has been provided by the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities*