

Disability Education & Awareness for Municipalities: Communities Including & Empowering Citizens with Disabilities

Disability Education & Awareness for Municipalities (DEAM) is a FREE, innovative virtual training program developed and offered by **Niagara University Disability Awareness Training (DAT)** and the **Erie County (NY) Office for People with Disabilities** for municipal employees, elected officials, individuals with disabilities, disability advocates, and people interested in developing the whole community.

This customized curriculum is designed to train and educate both municipal employees and individuals with disabilities to work together to ensure acceptance, accessibility, and proper and proactive response to the needs of ALL citizens. It introduces municipal employees the necessary tools, resources, and materials for both inclusion and compliance.

Dave Whalen is currently the Project Director for DAT, past-Chair for the Town of Amherst's Committee on Disabilities and member of the Erie County Disability Advisory Board and past member of NYS Independent Living Council. Frank Cammarata is the executive director of the Erie County Office for People with Disabilities. Between them they have over 60 years' experience in the field of disabilities. They will provide attendees with information, strategies, resources, and techniques that will address the following:

- Municipal Committee on Disabilities structure and development
- Proper Etiquette and interaction skills to include Person/Identity First Language
- Americans with Disabilities Act and local governments: Common Problems
- ADA Coordinator role within a municipality
- Accessibility & inclusivity in a municipality
- Specific department roles and responsibilities
- First Responders and Emergency Management
- Hiring practices
- Program options (i.e., recreation, parks)



This program will be the modified version. There will be **TWO options** for you to virtually attend. It is available to anyone who resides in the state of New York. Self-advocates, family members of people with disabilities, disability advocates, people invested in the disability community and municipality employees are encouraged to apply to attend this **FREE program**.

CHOICE 1: October 29,
2020

WHEN: 9:00am-12:00pm

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER
FOR THIS SESSION](#)**

CHOICE 2: November 12,
2020

WHEN: 9:00am-12:00pm

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER
FOR THIS SESSION](#)**

This program provided from funding secured by NYS Assemblymember
Karen McMahon

