

COMMUNITY DAYS

Are ideal opportunities for individuals with ASD, their families and the community to meet and interact with first responders in a non-emergency situation. Interested in hosting a community day? Contact us to find out how!

SCHEDULE A TRAINING OR COMMUNITY DAY

Contact:

Kara Downey
DNEA Program Coordinator
Ph: 302-831-7009
kdowney@udel.edu

If you are a first responder and your discipline is not listed we will do our best to adapt our curriculum to meet your professional needs. Please call or email the DNEA Program Coordinator to schedule a training in your area.

ABOUT US



The DNEA is Delaware's statewide training and technical assistance center for autism spectrum disorder and works to ensure that individuals with autism and their families have access to high quality support, education and evidence-based care. The DNEA represents a partnership between key disability organizations in Delaware and provides training, technical assistance, and information dissemination to professionals and organizations, as well as parent training and family navigation services.

CONTACT THE DNEA

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DNEA Program Coordinator
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ALEC

ALEC began in 2003 as a collaborative effort of the Family Autism Center of the Arc of South Norfolk and former Norfolk County District Attorney William R. Keating. The ALEC program currently receives funding through the Autism Spectrum Division of the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services and other federal, local and private grants. ALEC works across the country to train first responders on supporting individuals with ASD.

CONTACT ALEC

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Statewide Project Coordinator
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AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER & FIRST RESPONDERS

TRAINING INITIATIVE



A collaboration between the Delaware Network for Excellence in Autism (DNEA) and the Autism & Law Enforcement Education Coalition (ALEC)

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is estimated to occur in one out of every 59 births. Individuals with ASD are more likely to have 911 encounters than people in the general population. It's important that first responders are trained to understand the needs of individuals with ASD and strategies to protect and communication with this population.

For this reason, the Delaware Network for Excellence in Autism (DNEA) is collaborating with the Autism & Law Enforcement Education Coalition (ALEC) to provide community-based trainings to first responders in Delaware.

The goal of this initiative is to complement but not replace previous training and provide additional tools to use in assessing the risk of a situation.



AVAILABLE TRAININGS

Law Enforcement/Police Officer Training

A local store manager reports a teenage acting erratically, rocking, flapping her hands, echoing to manager's words. Is she on drugs? Is she in trouble? How can you determine if ASD is a factor?

Firefighter Training

Entering a smoke-filled building, you are told there is a person with ASD still inside, possibly hiding. Where should you look first? What kind of equipment may be needed to ensure a safe outcome?

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Training

You respond to a call and it's reported the individual has ASD. How should you proceed? What's the best way to communicate with this person?

All trainings include:

- What is Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)?
- Common behaviors & characteristics
- Suggested responses
- Avoiding unfortunate situations

Trainings help foster a deeper understanding of ASD among public safety and law enforcement personnel. Trainings are available to police officers, firefighters and emergency medical service (EMS) professionals, using curriculum and videos specific to each group.

Presenters are current first responders with direct knowledge of ASD through a family member. The audience hears from a colleague with personal knowledge and an extraordinary investment in the program.

