



University at Buffalo

Alberti Center for  
Bullying Abuse Prevention

Graduate School of Education



# Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention

**Annual Report**

**July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**

## ALBERTI CENTER ADMINISTRATORS

**Jean M. Alberti, PhD**, Benefactor

**Amanda B. Nickerson, PhD**, Director

**Stephanie S. Fredrick, PhD** Associate Director

**Brie Kishel**, Program and Operations Manager

**Kathleen P. Allen, PhD**, Training and Evaluation Specialist

**Toni Torchia, PhD**, Community Programming Consultant

**Gina Bellavia, PhD**, Project Director



Amanda Nickerson



Stephanie Fredrick



Brie Kishel



Kathleen Allen



Toni Torchia



Gina Bellavia

## STUDENT TEAM

**Swapna Balkundi**, Graduate Assistant

**Amanda Breese**, Graduate Assistant

**Julianna Casella**, Graduate Assistant

**Hannah Grossman**, Graduate Assistant

**Lauren Hearn**, Research Assistant

**Kay Huang**, Research Assistant

**Margaret Manges**, Graduate Assistant

**Abbey McClemont**, Graduate Assistant

**Rebecca Mohr**, Research Assistant

**Catherine Moore**, Research Assistant

**Timothy Parks**, Graduate Assistant

**Samantha Stanford**, Research Assistant

**Lucia Sun**, Research Assistant

**Alaina Tripp**, Research Assistant

**Jenine Tullledge**, Research Assistant

**Erica Wong**, Research Assistant

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New York State Education Department – Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Training

## **ALBERTI CENTER MISSION**

*The mission of the Alberti Center is to reduce bullying abuse in schools and in the community by contributing knowledge and providing evidence-based tools to effectively change the language, attitudes, and behaviors of educators, parents, students, and society. The center will be a national resource on the prevention of bullying and other antisocial behaviors among school children, as well as provide research and information that address these behaviors.*

## **HISTORY OF THE CENTER**

*A generous gift from Graduate School of Education alumna Jean M. Alberti (Ph.D. '70, Educational Psychology) established the Dr. Jean M. Alberti Center for the Prevention of Bullying Abuse and School Violence (Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention) at the University at Buffalo. The center was introduced to the public on April 27, 2010, through its symposium, "Prevention of Bullying Abuse and School Violence," and was officially launched in July of 2011, when Amanda Nickerson, Ph.D., became the inaugural director.*

## **STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND IMPACT**

*The Alberti Center team has had an exciting and productive year as we fulfill our important mission. This annual report highlights these achievements as they relate to the mission and vision of the Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention, the Graduate School of Education (GSE), and the University at Buffalo. We showcase our partners, including faculty affiliates, advisory council members, researchers, students, funders, sponsors, award winners, and community members throughout this report. These partnerships remain instrumental in fulfilling the mission of the Center and maximizing our impact on bullying and school violence prevention.*

*In continuing our mission of contributing knowledge, faculty members affiliated with the Alberti Center have published their work in high impact peer refereed journals. Faculty members have also presented at regional and national professional conferences relevant to the Alberti Center's research. Many have continued to actively pursue and secure external funding for research and evaluation projects. The Center supports the efforts of exceptional early career scholars in the field of bullying abuse prevention through an annual Alberti Center Early Career Award.*

*In this report, we also recognize our advisory council, consisting of internationally renowned scholars, and pillars of the Western New York Community. We also highlight the numerous presentations we have conducted in schools and communities in and outside of New York State, both face-to-face and virtually. The Alberti Center actively supports the GSE's pedagogy of inquiry, engagement, and impact, which benefits both UB students and practitioners. As a New York State Education Department approved provider we continue to offer the Dignity for All Students Act training to hundreds of people, preparing for certification to work in schools, each year. We are excited to celebrate our successes and achievements in this annual report and recognize the talents and generosity of our partners as we all work towards reducing bullying abuse and other forms of violence in our schools and communities.*

## PEER REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Eiden, R. D., Livingston, J. A., Kelm, M. R., & Sassaman, J. N.** (2021). Risk and protective pathways to peer victimization from infancy to adolescence: Role of fathers. *Adversity and Resilience Science*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42844-020-00028-0>
- Fredrick, S. S., Jenkins, L., & Dexter, C.** (2021). Resiliency in young adulthood and associations among retrospective peer victimization and internalizing problems. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Trauma*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40653-021-00342-4>
- Fredrick, S. S., McClemont, A., Jenkins, J., & Kern, M.** (2021). Perceptions of emotional and physical safety among boarding students and associations with school bullying. *School Psychology Review*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2372966X.2021.1873705>
- Fredrick, S., Nickerson, A. B., & Livingston, J. A.** (2021). Family support and the relations among peer victimization and depression: A random intercepts cross-lagged model. *Development and Psychopathology*, 1-18.
- Kwon, M., Seo, Y., **Nickerson, A. B.**, Dickerson, S., Park, E., & **Livingston, J. A.** (2020). Sleep quality as a mediator of the relationship between cyber victimization and depression. *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 52, 416-425. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S095457942100016X>
- Lemke, M., Nickerson, A. & Saboda, J.** (2021). Global displacement and local contexts: A case study of U.S. urban educational policy and practice. *International Journal of Leadership in Education*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13603124.2021.1884747>
- Livingston, J. A., Allen, K. P., & Nickerson, A. B.** (2020). Parental perspectives on sexual abuse prevention: Barriers and challenges. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 29, 3317-3334. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-020-01796-0>
- Manges, M., & Nickerson, A. B.** (2020). Student knowledge gain following the Second Step Child Protection Unit: The influence of treatment integrity. *Prevention Science*, 21, 1037-1047. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11121-020-01146-y>
- Nickerson, A. B., Breux, P., Schaffer, G. E., & Samet, M. J.** (2021). An initial evaluation of the Helping Students At-Risk for Suicide professional development workshop. *School Psychology Review*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2372966X.2021.1919494>
- Nickerson, A. B., Kim, S., Dudley, M., Livingston, J., & Manges, M.** (2021). Longitudinal impact of the Second Step Child Protection Unit on teacher knowledge, attitude, and climate. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 121, 105892. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2020.105892>
- Nickerson, A. B., Randa, R., Jimerson, S., & Guerra, N.** (2021). Safe places to learn: Advances in school safety research and practice. *School Psychology Review*. Online first publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2372966X.2021.1871948>
- Nickerson, A. B., & Schildkraut, J.** (2021). State anxiety prior to and after participating in lockdown drills among students in a rural high school. *School Psychology Review*, 1-13. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2372966X.2021.1875790>

Perhamus, G. R., & **Ostrov J. M.** (2021). Emotions and cognitions in early childhood aggression: The role of irritability and hostile attribution biases. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, 49, 63-75. <https://doi:10.1007/s10802-020-00707-7>

Perry, K. J., **Ostrov, J. M.**, Shisler, S., **Eiden, R. D.**, **Nickerson, A. B.**, Godleski, S. A., & Schuetze, P. (2021). Pathways from early family violence to adolescent reactive aggression and violence victimization. *Journal of Family Violence*, 36, 75–86. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-019-00109-4>

Schildkraut, J., & **Nickerson, A. B.**, & Klingman, K. (2021). Reading, writing, responding: Faculty and staff perceptions of school safety and emergency preparedness in the context of lockdown drills. *Educational Policy*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08959048211015617>

## BOOK CHAPTERS

**Fredrick, S. S.**, Jenkins, L., & Dexter, C.<sup>1</sup> (2020). The defender vantage point. In L. Rosen, S. Scott, & **S. Kim** (Eds.), *Bullying in my eyes: Understanding the vantage point of the bully, victim, and bystander*. London, United Kingdom: Palgrave Macmillan.

**Kim, S.**, & **Fredrick, S. S.** (2020). From a North American perspective. In T. Yuichi & O. Insoo (Eds.), *Tackling internet abuse and cyberbullying: Innovative usage of games, apps, and manga*. New York: Routledge.

**Nickerson, A.**, **Tulledge, J.**, & **Manges, M.** (2020). Theories of crisis and trauma. In K. Kelly, C. Albers, & A. Grabacz (Eds.), *Theoretical foundations of school psychology research and practice*. New York: Routledge.

**Nickerson, A. B.**, & **Parks, T.** (2021). Preventing bullying. In P. J. Lazarus, S. Suldo, & B. Doll (Eds.), *Fostering the emotional well-being of our youth: A school-based approach* (pp. 338-354). Oxford University Press.

## FUNDED RESEARCH

**Nickerson, A. B.** (PI). "Creating Upstanders: The Development of Norms And Bystander Intervention Training (NAB IT!) to Reduce Bullying and Sexual Harassment." Institute of Education Sciences (\$1,381,579). 7/1/2019-12/31/2022. R305A190139.

**Eiden, R.** and **Nickerson, A. B.** (Multiple PI); "Developmental pathways of violence and substance use in a high risk sample." National Institutes of Health (\$3,395,047). 7/1/2015-3/31/2021 (no cost extension). 1RO1DA041231-01 (NIDA).

**Nickerson, A. B.** (PI); "Randomized controlled trial of Second Step Child Protection Unit." Committee for Children (\$500,000). 5/1/2017-12/31/2020 (no cost extension).

**Ostrov, J. M. (PI)**; "Peer and Family Adversity, Neuroendocrine Regulation, and School Readiness across the Transition to Kindergarten." NICHD (\$2,161,922). 04/10/19-03/31/24.



## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Aperture Education (Amanda Nickerson, VP of Equity and Impact Search Advisory Board Member)

BAND Against Bullying (Amanda Nickerson, Board Member and Judge; Brie Kishel, Marketing Committee Member)

UB Graduate School of Education Center for Community-Invested Research, Collaboration, & Learning (CIRCL; Stephanie Fredrick, Member)

Center for Disability Studies at UB (Brie Kishel, Community Advisory Committee Member)

Disability Education and Advocacy Network (Brie Kishel, Executive Board Member)

Erie County Law Enforcement Foundation (Brie Kishel, Marketing & Website consultant)

Editorial Board Appointments: *Contemporary School Psychology* (Amanda Nickerson), *International Journal of Bullying Prevention* (Amanda Nickerson), *Journal of School Psychology* (Amanda Nickerson and Stephanie Fredrick, Associate Editor), *School Psychology* (Stephanie Fredrick and Amanda Nickerson), *School Psychology Review* (Amanda Nickerson)

Mental Health Association of New York State Bullying Prevention Workgroup (Amanda Nickerson and Stephanie Fredrick, Members)

National Association of School Psychologists (Amanda Nickerson, School Safety and Crisis Response Committee Member and Coordinator for Research)

Regional Gun Violence Research Consortium (Amanda Nickerson, Governor-appointed Member)

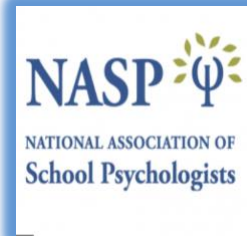
Reviewing: American Psychological Association (Stephanie Fredrick, Convention Proposal Reviewer), National Institutes of Health, Risk, Prevention, and Health Behavior Small Business Grant (Amanda Nickerson, Special Emphasis Panel/Scientific Review Group)

Safe and Sound Schools (Amanda Nickerson, Speakers Bureau)

Spread the Word Inclusion (Brie Kishel, Planning Committee/Marketing & Communications)

Suicide Prevention Coalition of Erie County (Alberti Center, Member; Amanda Nickerson, Schools Subcommittee Member)

Terrace Metrics (Amanda Nickerson, Advisory Board Member)



## SELECT HONORS AND AWARDS

Dr. Amanda Nickerson was appointed as guest editor of special issue of School Psychology Review on School Violence and School Safety and guest editor of School Psychology on COVID-19 special issue.

### ALBERTI CENTER EARLY CAREER AWARD (2020)



**RECIPIENT – Gijs Huitsing, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences | University of Groningen, the Netherlands.

This award recognizes Dr. Huitsing as an individual who has made exemplary scholarly contributions to the field of bullying abuse prevention and conducted research that has the potential to influence practice and policy.

### Relevant Publications

Hooijsma, M., Kisfalusi, D., **Huitsing, G.**, Dijkstra, J. K., Flache, A., & Veenstra, R. (2021). Crossing ethnic boundaries? A social network investigation of defending relationships in schools. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13684302211009318>

**Huitsing, G.**, Lodder, G. M. A., Browne, W. J., Oldenburg, B., van der Ploeg, R., & Veenstra, R. (2020). A large-scale replication of the effectiveness of the KiVa Antibullying Program: A randomized controlled trial in the Netherlands. *Prevention Science*, 21, 627-638. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11121-020-01116-4>

Kaufman, T. M. L., **Huitsing, G.**, Bloemberg, R., & Veenstra, R. (2020). The systematic application of network diagnostics to monitor and tackle bullying and victimization in schools. *International Journal of Bullying Prevention*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42380-020-00064-5>

Kaufman, T. M. L., **Huitsing, G.**, & Veenstra, R. (2020). Refining victims' self-reports on bullying: Assessing frequency, intensity, power imbalance, and goal-directedness. *Social Development*, 29, 375-390. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sode.12441>

van Aalst, D., **Huitsing, G.**, Mainhard, T., Cillessen, A. H. N., & Veenstra, R. (2021). Testing how teachers' self-efficacy and student-teacher relationships moderate the association between bullying, victimization, and student self-esteem. *European Journal of Developmental Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17405629.2021.1912728>

Vries, E. de, Kaufman, T. M. L., Veenstra, R., Laninga-Wijnen, L., & **Huitsing, G.** (2021). Bullying and victimization trajectories in the first years of secondary education: Implications for status and affection. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10964-020-01385-w>



## ENGAGING: INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATIONS/EVENTS

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Kathleen Allen, PhD**, Training and Evaluation Specialist, Alberti Center of Bullying Abuse Prevention | University at Buffalo

**Annahita Ball, PhD**, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work | University at Buffalo

**Wendy Craig, PhD**, Professor and Head of Psychology, Queen's University and Scientific Co-Director of PREVNet

**Lyndsay Jenkins, PhD, NCSP**, Associate Professor, Educational Psychology and Learning Systems | Florida State University

**Jennifer Livingston, PhD**, Associate Professor, School of Nursing | University at Buffalo

**Bruce Mitchell**, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Kevin Penberthy, LCSW**, Deputy Director, Regional Office | New York State OPWDD

**Jamie Pernick**, Assistant Principal | Lancaster High School

**Rene Petties-Jones**, President | National Federation for Just Communities of WNY Inc.

**Paul Poteat, PhD**, Associate Professor, Counseling, Developmental, & Educational Psychology | Boston College

**Bradford Watts**, Community Relations Coordinator | People Inc

**Daniela Wolfe, LMSW**, School Social Worker | Amherst Central School District

### FACULTY AFFILIATES

**Ariel Aloe, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Psychological and Quantitative Foundations | University of Iowa

**Laura Anderson, PhD**, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing | University at Buffalo

**Julie Bowker, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Catherine P. Cook-Cottone, PhD**, Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Janice L. DeLucia, PhD**, Associate Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology and Program Director, School Counseling | University at Buffalo

**Rina D. Eiden, PhD**, Professor, Department of Psychology, Consortium for Combating Substance Abuse, | Pennsylvania State University

**Jennifer Livingston, PhD**, Associate Professor, School of Nursing | University at Buffalo

**Jamie M. Ostrov, PhD**, Professor, Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Amy L. Reynolds, PhD**, Professor, Counseling, School, & Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Darren Treadway, PhD**, Visiting Assistant Professor of Business Administration | Daemen College

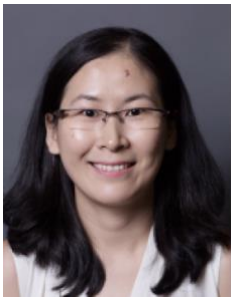
## 2020-2021 VIRTUAL COLLOQUIUM SERIES



**September 2020 –**

**Celia Spacone, PhD**, Coordinator of Suicide Prevention Coalition of Erie County | Crisis Services

*Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) Virtual Training – 46 attendees*



**November 2020 –**

**Chunyan Yang, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Education | University of California, Berkeley  
*Recipient of the 2019 Alberti Center Early Career Award*

*Understanding Educators' Self-efficacy, Compassion Fatigue, and School Connectedness During the COVID-19 Pandemic – 46 attendees*



**February 2021 –**

**Sheri Bauman, PhD**, Professor of Counseling, College of Education | University of Arizona



**Jina Yoon, PhD**, Professor, Department of Disability and Psychoeducational Studies | University of Arizona

*The Role of Teachers in Reducing Bullying in Schools – 90 attendees*

## ALBERTI CENTER VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE – OCTOBER 13, 2020

307 attendees

### Panel One Presentations: Isolation, Inequities, and Cyberbullying: Evidence-Based Approaches to Promoting Well-Being and Social Justice



**Sameer Hinduja, PhD**  
Co-Director | Cyberbullying Research Center  
Professor of Criminology | Florida Atlantic University



**Stacy A. S. Williams, PhD, NCSP**  
Associate Professor | Marist College



**Shannon Suldo, PhD**  
Professor | University of South Florida



**Julie Bowker, PhD**  
Associate Professor | University at Buffalo

### Panel Two Presentations: Supporting Schools in Times of Physical Distancing and Crisis: Voices from the Field



**Jennifer Noe**  
School Social Worker | Smallwood Elementary School



**Benjamin S. Fernandez, MS Ed.**  
Lead School Psychologist  
Loudoun County Public Schools



**Christina Conolly, PsyD, NCSP**  
Director for Psychological Services  
Montgomery County Public Schools



**James Mazza, PhD**  
Professor | University of Washington - Seattle



**Elizabeth Tam Dexter-Mazza, PsyD**  
President & Co-owner | DBT in Schools, LLC & Mazza Consulting and Psychological Services, PLLC

### 2020 Conference Sponsor:

UB Graduate School of Education



## COLLABORATIVE EVENTS

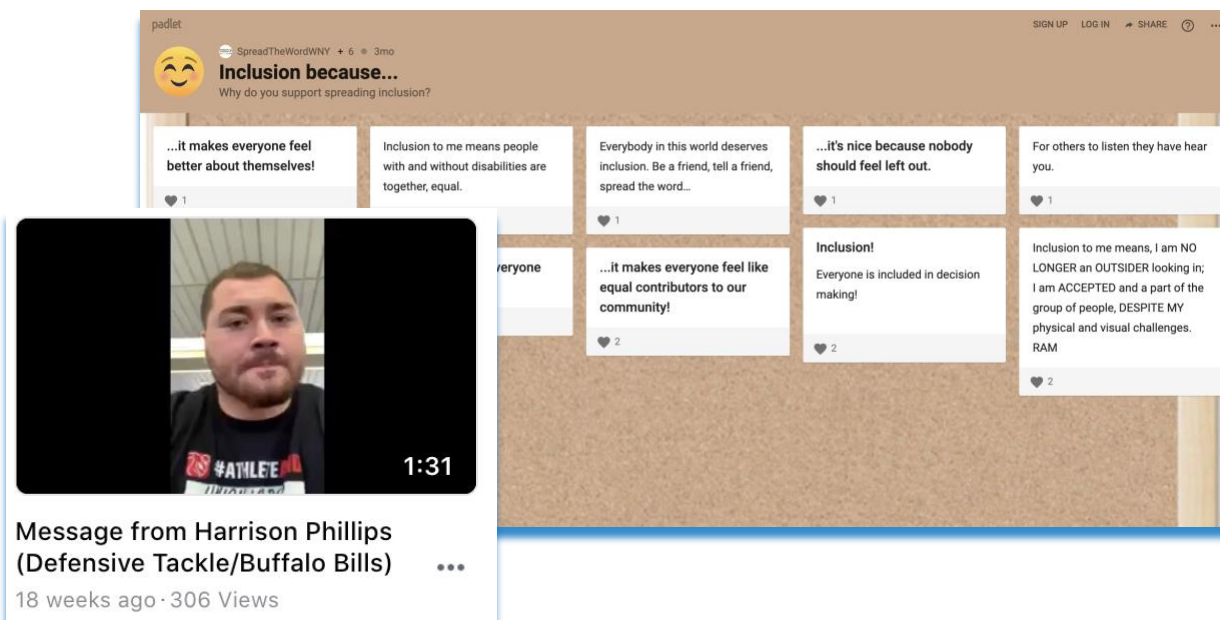
**BAND Against Bullying 2020 (Virtual event)** – This dignity-themed high school performing arts competition was created to raise community awareness of bullying-related issues and empower youth to be advocates for change in their homes, schools, and communities.

BAND took place virtually in 2020 on Facebook Live and YouTube. Videos of the performances from 5 Western New York High Schools have been posted on the BAND Against Bullying YouTube Channel and website at [nybandagainstbullying.org](http://nybandagainstbullying.org).



**Spread the Word Inclusion 2020 (Virtual event)** – The Alberti Center joined the Spread the Word Inclusion, Western New York (WNY) committee in 2014. What started as Spread the Word to End the Word, a US campaign to encourage people to pledge to stop using language that is offensive to people with disabilities, has broadened both its goals and its scope.

Spread the Word Inclusion Day is annually recognized the first week of March, but was held virtually in 2020 by sharing videos submitted by local businesses and organizations that celebrate diversity and inclusion and by having individuals share why they support spreading inclusion.



## MEDIA COVERAGE & PRESS RELEASES

Links to all media publications can be found on our website at <http://ed.buffalo.edu/alberti/news.html>



## SOCIAL MEDIA EFFORTS/CENTER REACH



**859 Followers**



**1,123 Followers**



**2100 Subscribers**



**92 Members**



**143 Followers**

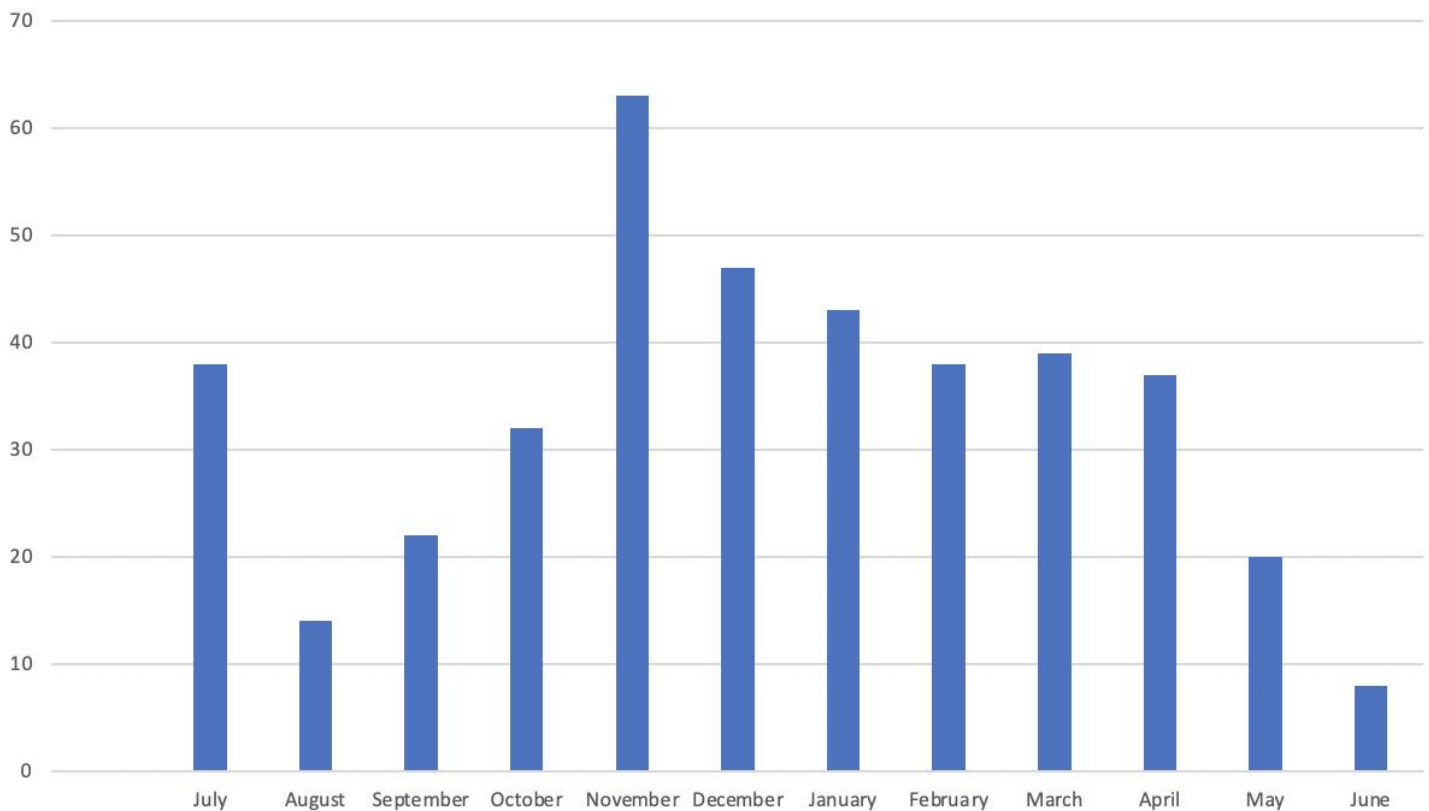


**52 Subscribers**

## PEDAGOGY OF INQUIRY, ENGAGEMENT, AND IMPACT

### New York State Education Department - Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Training for Certification

2020-2021 NYSED DASA Workshop Participants



#### **DASA Participants from July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**

Total number of participants: **401**

**Part Two of the DASA Training Workshop, which usually occurs in person on campus, was transitioned to an online format in April 2020 with approval from the New York State Education Department, due to COVID-19.**

**We will continue offering the entire workshop fully online until further notice.**