

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: March 5, 2019

If you no longer wish to receive this update, please contact Nancy Kershner at nancy.kershner@ucpcentralpa.org to have your name removed.

NOTE: This update is for informational purposes only. The PaRC and Support Staff are not responsible for the accuracy of this information. Some of the information found in this update you may have already received from another source. The PaRC or the Support Staff do not use this update as a vehicle to express their views and positions. As of **March 5, 2019**, all links have been verified. Please credit the PaRC Support Project for any information forwarded to others. Thank You.

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Council is to inform and advise the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, the State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Legislature, and the Governor on the diverse issues affecting employment of people with disabilities.

The PaRC 2018 Annual Report and can be found on our webpage or by clicking on the following link

<http://parac.org/reports/2018AnnualReport.pdf>

Find Your Local CAC Meeting Dates: Please go to our website www.parac.org and click on the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) link to find dates, locations, times, etc. for information on the nearest CAC.

***** PaRC Calendar Year 2019 –Please Mark your Calendars *****

FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS

PaRC Full Council meetings will be held at the **Harrisburg Hilton** from 9:30 AM until 3:30 PM (unless otherwise noted). We will also have parking passes for those who park in the Strawberry Square Parking Garage. Please plan to stay for the entire meeting.

March 6, 2019

May 1, 2019

August 21, 2019

October 23, 2019

PaRC Member Committee Conference Calls – Please Mark your Calendars

CareerLink/WIOA

Next Call: To be Determined

Executive Committee Conference Call

Next Call: – To be Determined.

Legislative and Public Awareness Conference Call

Next Call: To be Determined.

OVR Policy and State Plan Committee / Customer Satisfaction Conference Call

Next Call: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 10:00 AM

Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call

Next Call: To be Determined

Transition & Education

Next Call: – Thursday, April 11, 2019 at 2:00 PM

The PaRC Social Media and Outreach Committee in partnership with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) produced 6 videos, 5 of which are OVR individual and business success stories, as well as a PaRC Recruitment video. We want to thank both the individuals and companies that participated in making these videos and OVR for supporting the project. The PaRC is pleased to present the following 6 videos. Please feel free to share.

[PaRC Recruitment](#)

[PaRC Aha Moment](#)

[PaRC Dream Partnership](#)

[PaRC Keystone Blind Association](#)

[PaRC Herr Foods Inc.](#)

[PaRC Assistive Technology](#)

PaRC COUNCIL OPENINGS: The PaRC is looking for candidates to fill the following openings: A veteran with a disability and a candidate to represent the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. If interested, please go to our website (www.parac.org) and fill out an application.

1.) National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research:

ADA Live! Theme Parks and Accessibility - The NIDILRR-funded [Southeast ADA Regional Center](#) will host Episode 66 of the ADA Live!

webcast, [Theme Parks and Accessibility](#), March 6th, 1-1:30pm ET. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ensures equality for people with disabilities at places of public accommodation, including theme parks. This includes providing inclusive experiences from going online to plan a visit and purchase tickets to entering and navigating the park. Presenters will discuss how the Dollywood theme park in Tennessee ensures a memorable experience for all. No registration is required for the webcast. [Questions may be submitted in advance.](#)

March 3rd is World Hearing Day 2019 - The [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) has declared March 3rd as [World Hearing Day](#), drawing attention to the importance of early identification and intervention for hearing loss. Events in the US and internationally will focus on screening for hearing loss, including release of HearWHO, a free app which allows people to check their hearing and practice safe listening. The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), CDC, WHO, and other organizations will also participate in [#Wiki4WorldHearingDay2019](#), a joint initiative to improve Wikipedia content on Deafness and hearing health.

2.) Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association: Mental Health and Wellness Conference - The conference will unite peers, family members, advocates and professionals for a one-of-a-kind, statewide mental health event. **May 20 and 21, 2019 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey.** Early-bird Registration \$125 // Standard Registration \$150. **Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey** - Room rates available through April 19, 2019. Rate: \$114 per night plus tax. Group Code: NAM. Phone Number: 717-469-0661. Go to <http://pmhca.org/trainings> for more information.

3.) Policy Information Exchange: 2019 Disability Policy Seminar - Registration is officially open for the [2019 Disability Policy Seminar](#). Learn about key issues, such as employment, civil rights, Medicaid, voting issues, and advance the grassroots movement for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). This year's [schedule](#) is packed with informative sessions, experts in the field, and opportunities to connect with other advocates from your state. [Register today](#) to join us in Washington, DC

4.) Matthew Seeley, Esq. (PaRC Council Member):
Attached please find an updated version of the map of Centers for Independent Living in Pennsylvania. Please feel free to share and use in your advocacy.



1727-3 PA SILC map
8.5x11.pdf

5.) American Association of People with Disabilities:

['Baseball got it': Disability rights advocates hail MLB's decision to shelve the disabled list](#)

[Recognizing the Value of Disabled Workers](#) - In this editorial in the Wall Street Journal, Ted Kennedy Jr., AAPD Board Chair, states that despite the accomplishments in corporate disability inclusion, there is much more work to be done in this space.

[AV companies are making progress on accessibility challenges](#)

[Helping Untapped Talent Pool Rejoin the Workforce: Good for Workers, Businesses, and Economy](#)

[Assessing the Unmet Transportation Needs of Americans with Disabilities](#)

[2019 Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities \(YLF\)](#) - Applications are now being accepted for the 2019 Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities (YLF). The YLF is a five-day residential self-advocacy and leadership development summer youth program held on a college campus. Applications are due March 3, 2019.

[Bender Virtual Career Fair for People with Disabilities](#) - The Bender Virtual Career Fair provides an opportunity for employers and job seekers with disabilities to connect online and network from the convenience of their homes or offices. The next Bender Virtual Career Fair will be held on March 13, 2019.

[Inclusion Works Virtual Career Connection](#) - The Virtual Career Connection event is an excellent opportunity for early career and experienced candidates to virtually meet with Fortune/Global 500 companies from the convenience of their homes or offices. Deadline for candidates with disabilities with interest in STEM, Finance, Business, Customer Service and Sales careers to complete the event application is March 25, 2019. The Inclusion Works Virtual Career Connection will be held from 12:00pm to 2:00pm Eastern Time on Friday, April 12, 2019.

[M-Enabling Summit 2019](#) - Registration is now open for the M-Enabling Summit. The M-Enabling Summit will be held on June 17-19, 2019 at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel, in Washington, D.C.

[Think College Materials for Students & Families - February 2019](#) - With this resource from Think College, students with developmental and intellectual disabilities and their families begin to consider and plan for college and employment.

[Reaching People with Disabilities through Healthy Communities](#)

[An Open Internet Empowers People with Disabilities](#) - In this post for the AAPD Power Grid Blog, Susan Diegelman, AAPD Board Member, describes how an open internet is key to continuing innovation in accessible technology for the disability community.

[More Colleges Opening Doors to People with Developmental Disabilities](#)

[How Business Leaders Are Introducing Disability Rights as a CSR Issue](#) - This Forbes article discusses how disability inclusion will be a top issue for C-suite executives in 2019.

[How People with Disabilities Are Using AI to Improve Their Lives](#)

[America's Workforce Returns](#) - Disabled workers join job market at highest level in years amid low unemployment and stricter rules for claiming benefits.

6.) DisabilityScoop.com:

Dentists No Longer Permitted to Turn Away Patients Due to Disabilities – People with developmental disabilities may find it easier to get dental care after a national board changed its ethics policy to be more inclusive. [Read More >](#)

Walmart Exploring “Potential Accommodations” for Greeters with Special Needs – Walmart is apparently softening its stance after the company modified expectations for some positions leaving workers with disabilities worried that they would soon be out of a job. [Read More >](#)

State Launches Developmental Disability ID Cards – People with developmental disabilities in one of the nation’s most populous states can now apply for a government-issued identification card designed to ease encounters with first responders. [Read More >](#)

7.) PA SILC:

PA SILC Newsletter - March 2019 -- [View this email in your browser](#)

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