

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

Office Location / Mailing Address: 55 Utlely Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Voice: (717) 975-2004 or (888) 250-5175 tty: (717) 737-0158 fax: (888) 524-9282

Email: racucpa@ucpcentralpa.org www. Parac.org

WEEKLY UPDATE: March 19, 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 19, 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: To be Determined.

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.) DisabilityScoop.com:

Trump Proposes Cuts to Medicaid, Other Disability Programs - With his latest budget proposal, the president is calling for significant changes to

Medicaid that advocates say would have big consequences for people with disabilities. [Read More >](#)

Bill Would Protect SSI Benefits for Couples Who Marry – Under current rules, individuals with developmental disabilities receive less money each month in Supplemental Security Income if they marry. New legislation would change that. [Read More >](#)

New Day Program Envisioned with “Community College-Like Campus” – Frustrated that many students depart high school only to sit at home with nothing to do, a teacher is developing a new day program to serve adults with disabilities, regardless of severity. [Read More >](#)

2.) Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers’ Association:

Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers’ Association seeks a creative, resourceful leader to be its next **Executive Director, effective June 2019**. The Executive Director functions as the Chief Executive Officer of the statewide, consumer run association and has overall responsibility for day-to-day management and operation of the organization, reporting to the Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Board of Directors. Job tasks are performed in Harrisburg PA office. Full time, exempt position. Salary commensurate with experience. Please submit resume with cover letter by March 30, 2019 to pmhca@pmhca.org explaining why you are the best person to be Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association next leader. No phone calls please. For more information like job responsibilities/requirements please go to our website or click on the following link: [Executive Director](#), Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association, Harrisburg, PA

Mental Health Awareness Days - Monday, May 6th, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. and Wednesday, May 8th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Monday, May 6th, 2:30 to 3:30 in the Pennsylvania State Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg -- Wednesday, May 8th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Strawberry Square in downtown Harrisburg. We are expecting over 40 different vendors who will be available to talk to us about services that are available to young people (youth through the age of 26), their families, professionals and service professionals. Visit our Website

3.) Mathematica Policy Research:

Webinar - Improving Transition Outcomes for Youth SSI Recipients: Early Findings from the PROMISE Evaluation - Thursday, April 11, 2019, Noon to 1:30 p.m. (ET) - In selected states, youth ages 14 to 16 who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and their families could take advantage of innovative services and improved service coordination through the Promoting the Readiness of Minors in Supplemental Security Income (PROMISE) demonstration. Learn more about the evaluation of PROMISE by

visiting [the project webpage](#). Topics will include the following: The landscape of transition services for youth with disabilities and the challenges that youth and families face in accessing those services. Different approaches used by the PROMISE programs to address service-system challenges and improve transition outcomes. Findings from the 18-month PROMISE impact evaluation. Perspectives on evaluation findings from the U.S. Department of Education and the Social Security Administration. [Register for the webinar](#).

4.) Linda Williams (PaRC Support Staff):

The State Transportation Commission (STC), PennDOT and our planning partners are excited to announce the beginning of the Twelve-Year Transportation Program Planning Process. The STC recently released the [2019 Transportation Performance Report](#). It contains info about how PA's transportation system performed over the last two years. We encourage you to read and share the report and then - Tell Us What You Think! The Open Public Comment Period for the 2021 Twelve Year Program Update is March 11 - April 26, 2019. The comments received during the Open Public Comment Period help guide statewide transportation planning and programming. *Take the [Transportation Survey](#). Register for the [Online Public Meeting](#): March 20 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. *Registration is not required to attend the Online Public Meeting. For more information, visit www.TalkPATransportation.com. Phone: (717) 783-226. Email:RA-PennDOTSTC@pa.gov*

5.) EARN:

Inclusion@Work Trainings - EARN recently enhanced its Inclusion@Work employer policy framework with multimedia trainings for each of its seven components of a disability-inclusive workplace. [Read more.](#)

Apprenticeship Webinar - Last month, EARN was pleased to speak during a webinar sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Apprenticeship to share best practices for encouraging self-identification of disability by apprentices - a topic of increased interest as a result of 2016 updates to rules regarding equal employment opportunity (EEO) in Registered Apprenticeship programs. [Read more.](#)

Prudential - For more than 140 years, Prudential has helped people and businesses worldwide with their insurance and financial needs. According to Peggy Foran, Chief Governance Officer, Senior Vice President and Corporate Secretary, a diverse workforce inclusive of people with disabilities adds to the company's ability to do so successfully. [Read more.](#)

6.) PA ABLE:

The Pennsylvania ABLE Savings Program invites you to join two upcoming webinars, one moderated by the ABLE National Resource Center (ANRC) and

one moderated by the Social Security Administration (SSA). **ABLE National Resource Center (ANRC) – “ABLE Program Spotlight: The National ABLE Alliance” -- Register Here: [Wednesday, March 20, 2019 – 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. \(EST\)](#)** -- This presentation will include: What the NAA is; NAA program features and investment options; Best practices to get the most out of your National ABLE Alliance account; Testimony from National ABLE Alliance account owners; Questions and answers.

Social Security Administration (SSA) – “Achieving Financial Independence with Ticket to Work and an ABLE Account” - Register Here: [Wednesday, March 27, 2019 - 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. \(EST\)](#) --

Register now for the March WISE webinar and learn more about: How ABLE accounts may help certain people with disabilities and their families save for the future while protecting eligibility for public benefits. Updates and changes to ABLE programs that may help you save more money. How an ABLE account and Social Security’s Ticket to Work (Ticket) program can help you achieve financial independence through work. The Ticket program supports career development for people ages 18 through 64 who receive Social Security disability benefits (SSDI/SSI) and want to work. Monthly WISE webinars offer you the opportunity to learn more about Social Security programs, Work Incentives and other resources that may help you or someone you know on the path to financial independence through work

7.) Passle Helminski (PaRC Council Member):

Changes to Pennsylvania’s Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) - The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services is moving ahead with a plan, required by Act 40 of 2018, to shift the county-based management of [Pennsylvania’s Medical Assistance Transportation Program \(MATP\)](#) and non-medical transportation for individuals receiving home and community-based waiver services to a regional brokerage model. PA Health Access and several other groups are calling on lawmakers and DHS officials to slow down the implementation process to allow for meaningful consumer and stakeholder engagement, careful planning, and the time required to build the best system for Pennsylvania. They are urging support for [SB 390](#) to have a joint commissions study the impact first. [Click here](#) to read a policy brief and recommendations on this issue prepared by the Pennsylvania Health Access Network and the Pennsylvania Transportation Alliance. If this issue is important to you, please consider supporting this bill. Contact John Tague at the PA Transportation Alliance at jtaguejr@aol.com or 412-952-5402, or Erin Ninehouser at the Pennsylvania Health Access Network at erin@pahealthaccess.org or 412-863-1047.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! 