

# **PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)**

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## **WEEKLY UPDATE: March 26, 2018**

\*If you no longer wish to receive this update, please contact Nancy Kershner at [nancy.kershner@ucpcentralpa.org](mailto: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 26, 2018**, 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 2017 Annual Report and can be found on our webpage or by clicking on the following link <http://www.parac.org/reports/>.**

**Find Your Local CAC Meeting Dates:** Please go to our website [www.parac.org](http://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 2018 –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.

**May 1, 2018** (Makeup date for March 7, 2018)

**May 2, 2018**

**August 22, 2018**

**October 24, 2018**

**PaRC Member Committee Conference Calls – Please Mark your Calendars**

**CAC / Executive Committee Conference Call**

Next Call: To be Determined

**CareerLink/WIOA**

Next Call: Monday, April 23, 2018 at 10:00 AM

**Executive Committee Conference Call**

Next Call: – Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 2:00 PM

**Legislative and Public Awareness Conference Call**

Next Call: Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 3:00 PM

**OVR Policy and State Plan Committee / Customer Satisfaction Conference Call**

Next Call: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 10:00 AM

**Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call**

Next Call: Friday, April 6, 2018 at 10:00 AM

**Transition & Education**

Next Call: – Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 2:00 PM

This past year, 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](#)

## **1.) American Association of People with Disabilities:**

### **[Seeking Volunteer Coordinators for Disability Mentoring Day \(DMD\) 2018!](#)**

-- Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) is a national effort coordinated by AAPD to promote career development for students and job-seekers with disabilities through hands-on career exploration and ongoing mentoring relationships. Volunteer DMD Coordinators organize events in their community to connect students and job-seekers with disabilities to employers in your community for a day of mentoring and job-shadowing.

### **[Action Alert! Urge Congress to Pass the EMPOWER Care Act to Get People with Disabilities & Seniors Back Home](#)**

-- By passing the bipartisan EMPOWER Care Act and funding the Money Follows the Person program, Congress can help more people with disabilities transition out of institutions and nursing homes and into the homes and communities of their choice. Without action NOW, more people will be stuck in institutions. [Use AAPD's advocacy tool](#) to easily send an email, tweet, and Facebook post directly to your Senators and Representative to tell them to support the EMPOWER Care Act and fund the MFP program.

**[2018 #CripTheVote Disability Issues Survey](#)** -- #CripTheVote is gathering feedback for their 2018 Disability Issues Survey. Your responses will help identify more clearly what the disability community's concerns and priorities are. Results will be posted this Spring.

**[April nTIDE Lunch & Learn Webinar](#)** -- **April 6, 2018 | 12pm ET** - On the first Friday of every month, corresponding with the Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs report, the National Trends in Disability Employment (or nTIDE) Lunch & Learn series will offer a live broadcast to share the results of the latest nTIDE findings as well as news and updates from the field of disability employment.

### **[Youth Scholarships are now available for the 2018 NCIL Annual Conference on Independent Living](#)**

-- The National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) Conference brings together thousands of disability advocates for workshops and panels as well as a march and rally to Capitol Hill focused on independent living. **Youth scholarship applications are due by April 30, 2018.**

**[2017 Compendium of Disability Statistics Released](#)** -- The Annual Disability Statistics Compendium is a web-based tool that pools disability statistics published by various federal agencies together in one place. When working on legislative and other matters relating to persons with disabilities, the Compendium will make finding and using disability statistics easier.

**ACTION ALERT! -- Contact Your Senators and Ask them to Protect the ADA! --** (The following is an excerpt) -- Call your Senators to ask them to join Senator Tammy Duckworth's letter to Senate leadership opposing [H.R.620, ADA Education and Reform Act](#) and telling them they should not bring forward H.R. 620 or any similar bill to the Senate floor. To date, 39 Senators have signed-on to this letter. Our goal is to reach 41 Senators or greater to make cloture on a Senate bill impossible, thus stopping any effort to weaken the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in the Senate before it begins. **We cannot allow Congress to chip away at the Americans with Disabilities Act and roll back our rights.** Our top focus is on the Senators below: New Mexico: -- Sen. Tom Udall **(202) 224-6621**; Sen. Martin Heinrich **(202) 224-5521**. Michigan: Sen. Gary Peters **(202) 224-6221**. North Dakota: -- Sen. Heidi Heitkamp **(202) 224-2043**. It is also important to contact the Senators below: West Virginia: -- Sen. Joe Manchin **(202) 224-2742**. Florida: Sen. Bill Nelson **(202) 224-5274**. Indiana: Sen. Joe Donnelly **(202) 224-4814**. Maine: -- Sen. Angus King **(202) 224-5344**. You can also call the Capitol Switchboard at **(202) 224-3121** or **(202) 224-3091 (TTY)** and ask to be connected to your Senators. [Contacting Congress](#) also provides information on how to reach your Senators by email or social media.

## **2.) Disabled-World.com:**

[2018 Lime Connect Fellowship Program for Students with Disabilities](#) – (The following is an excerpt) -- This year-long program includes educational workshops, leadership/skill building, interview preparation, coaching and multiple opportunities to connect with partner companies via The Leadership & Development Symposium and more.

## **3.) Disability Scoop.com:**

**Race is on to Renew Program That Moves People out of Institutions -** Disability advocates are scrambling to get funding renewed for a federal program that's helped thousands with developmental disabilities leave institutions but is now on the brink of collapse. [Read More >](#)

## **4.) Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion (EARN):**

**Disability Employment in USA Today -** A recent article in *USA Today* explored the issue of disability employment in the context of the current low unemployment rate. The article also highlights strategies some are using to more effectively recruit and retain people with different types of disabilities, such as alternative interviewing approaches and flexible work arrangements. [Read the USA Today article.](#)

**April 10, 2018, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. – Webcast: Ask the JAN Sensory Team** - In this live webcast, Job Accommodation Network (JAN) Sensory Team members Teresa Goddard and Brittany Lambert will talk about workplace accommodations for people with different types of sensory disabilities, including related to vision and hearing, and take questions from participants about specific situations and solutions. The webcast is free of charge, but registration is required and processed on a first come, first served basis. [Register for the JAN April 10 webcast.](#)

**5.) Center for Independent Living of Central PA:**


On Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, the Center for Independent Living of Central Pennsylvania (CILCP) hosted an open meeting between consumers and AmeriHealth Caritas, one of the three Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) chosen by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Long-Term Living, to provide services under the new Managed Care Model, Community HealthChoices. This new model will become effective in the Central Pennsylvania region in January of 2020 (if you're unfamiliar with Community HealthChoices, [here's what you need to know](#)).

**6.) Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association:**

**People with Disabilities Understand Your Health Coverage --** People with disabilities should know if their health plans cover special health care needs related to their disability (such as durable medical equipment, certain medications, habilitation services, or home health care), and what their out of pocket obligations are for any services related to their disability. Read [Fact Sheet #16](#), provided by the National Disability Navigator Resource Collaborative, for more information.

**7.) LEAD Center:**

**WEBINAR -- MARCH 28, 2018 -- 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. ET.** Self-Guided Discovery: Helping People Discover Their Own Path to Employment.  
**REGISTER NOW**

*The PaRC is looking for a candidate to fill a veteran with a disability opening. Any interested candidates, please go to our website at [www.parac.org](http://www.parac.org) and fill out an application. Thank You. LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! *