

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: March 5, 2018

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, 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 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.

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: To be Determined

Executive Committee Conference Call

Next Call: – To be Determined

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, March 13, 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.) Linda Williams (PaRC Support Staff):

The Center for Independent Living of Central Pennsylvania is participating in Highmark's 2018 Walk for a Healthy Community! The walk will take place on May 19th at HACC Harrisburg. Our goal is to raise \$15,000 through the Highmark 2018 Walk for a Health Community to reduce rider fees for individuals accessing CILCP's Living Well Transport Services. CILCP's Living Well Transport Services greatly expands the independence of people with disabilities by providing transportation on evenings and weekends, with no time constraints. Join us in the fight for accessible transportation services that connect individuals with disabilities and older adults to our community. For more information, or to register to walk or donate, visit the CILCP website (www.cilcp.org) . Learn more about the Highmark Walk

2.) Jill Kovalcik-Weaver (PaRC Support Staff):

[Harrisburg elementary school inventors create shoes for the blind](#) – (The following is an excerpt) -- Shoes that vibrate to warn the blind when they're approaching an obstacle. Sounds like a great idea, right? These special sneakers already exist, and they were invented right here in Harrisburg by a trio of elementary school students. Three young scientists were given a task at Melrose Elementary School on Berryhill Street to come up with an invention that would help vision-impaired classmates maneuver around the classroom. It won first place in the [Cal Ripken Sr. STEM Challenge](#). They give a demonstration in this video: [Melrose School students invent sneakers for the blind](#)

New Technical Assistance Opportunity - EFSLMP Provider Transformation 2.0 Webinar Series --

In March 2018, the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) will launch the **Provider Transformation 2.0 Webinar Series**, six (6) ninety-minute sessions led by national subject matter experts from the Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program (EFSLMP). The webinars are designed for community rehabilitation providers (CRPs) who have already begun to transform their service delivery model to one with an emphasis on competitive, integrated employment as the priority outcome for individuals served. Through this series, ODEP will gather more feedback to create the "Provider Transformation 2.0 Manual" as a supplemental resource for the field. This opportunity is open to all CRPs. The scheduled webinars will be held on Thursdays as follows:

Webinar #1: Redesigning Your Organization: Board, CEO, CFO, Middle Management, Front Line Staff, Employers & Stakeholders [Leadership, Strategic Planning, Operations Focus] - Date / Time: March 15, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern).

Webinar #2: Staff Development, Recruitment, and Restructuring: "How To" Examples of Effective Restructuring; Where to Focus

Attention on Transformation [Operations Focus, Workforce Focus] - Date / Time: March 29, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern).

Webinar #3: Staff Training Specifics: Developing Internal Trainers, Meaningful Day Integration, Best Practices, Transportation Solutions, Sample Job Descriptions/Work Day Schedules [Workforce Focus] - Date / Time: April 12, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern).

Webinar #4: Stakeholder Engagement: How to Listen; Considering Real Choices; Working Effectively with Families, Self-Advocates, Employers, Policymakers, and Advocacy Organizations [Customer Focus] - Date / Time: April 26, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern)

Webinar #5: The Importance of Effective Advocacy for Better Policy: Collaboration, Coalitions, Communities of Practice, and Capacity Building at the Local Level [Leadership, Strategic Planning] - Date / Time: May 10, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern).

Webinar #6: Funding Diversification: Local, State, Federal Examples + How to advocate for it; Phasing Out Reliance on Facility-Based Contracts [Strategic Planning, Operations Focus] - Date / Time: May 31, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern). For detailed information regarding the webinar series click [here](#). Complete the [online application](#) and [Provider Commitment Form](#) by March 5th. Applicants will be notified by March 12th.

3.) DisabilityScoop.com:

Few Parents Plan for Future of Children with Disabilities, Study Finds

– Many parents of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities are not doing enough to prepare for the prospect of their children outliving them, according to a new study. [Read More >](#)

4.) Passle Helminski (PaRC Council Member):

There is a petition on change.org regarding HR 620. Not sure when the bill will be introduced to the senate but, the petition is to encourage the senate to vote no. Please sign and share.

https://www.change.org/p/u-s-senate-say-yes-to-disability-rights?utm_m

5.) Matthew Seeley, Esq. (PaRC Council Member):

Casey Disability Employment Summit on April 16, 2018 from 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm in the Keystone Conference Center at the

Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex. During the past year I (Senator Casey) have used my role as Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging to take meaningful actions that benefit older Americans and Americans with disabilities. As I continue to gather information, I am hosting the Disability Employment Summit to bring together Pennsylvanians with disabilities, family members, advocates, researchers, employers and other leaders from across the Commonwealth to examine the major issues we need to face to increase employment for Americans with disabilities. I

hope you will join me as we focus on strategies to economic security and independence for Americans with disabilities. Please RSVP by Monday, April 9th to casey_disabilityemploymentsummit@aging.senate.gov or (202) 224-0185.

6.) The National Institute on Disability Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research:


Even for Experienced Wheelchair Users, Learning New Techniques May Save Wrists, Arms, and Shoulders --

For wheelchair users, transferring in and out of their chairs can take a toll on the upper body. This week's [Research In Focus](#) looks at a training program which may help even the most experienced wheelchair user improve their transfer techniques.

New Video Series Shares Voices of Experience in SCI -- The NIDILRR-funded [Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Model System Center \(MWRSCIS\)](#) is producing a video series, [Voices of Experience - Living with Spinal Cord Injury](#), in collaboration with FacingDisability.com. The 10-part video series focuses on the questions, issues, and concerns that are most important to hospitalized patients in the early days after SCI, such as the first days in the hospital, greatest fears, family relationships, and emotional reactions to injury. [Previews of the first two videos in the series are available on YouTube](#). When complete, the video series will be made available online.

Health Care Survey -- The NIDILRR-funded [Collaborative on Health Reform and Independent Living \(CHRIL\)](#) is conducting a [survey of adults with disabilities about getting and using health insurance and health care services](#). The online survey is open to adults 18 to 62 years old with any type of disability and any type of health insurance. Responses are anonymous. Qualified participants may enter to win a \$100 gift card.

Webinar Series: Financial Inclusion for People with Disabilities -- The NIDILRR-funded [Southeast ADA Regional Center](#) will host a three-part webinar series, [Show Me the Money! Advancing the ADA's Goal of Economic Self-Sufficiency - Financial Inclusion for People with Disabilities](#), March 8th, 15th, and 22nd, 2 - 3:30pm, ET. The series explores topics related to financial inclusion for people with disabilities, including creating a culture of financial inclusion and access; Money Smart, a financial education tool developed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Company (FDIC); and ABLE accounts. Registration is free and required for each webinar.

*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 and fill out an application. Thank You. **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!** *