

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: April 9, 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 **April 9, 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.

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: – 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, April 17, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call

Next Call: Friday, April 13, 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](#)

PaRC COUNCIL OPENINGS: Effective July 2018, the PaRC will be looking for candidates to fill the following openings: A veteran with a disability, a Mental Health representative and a Community Rehabilitation Provider representative. If interested please go to our website (www.parac.org) and fill out an application. Thank you.

1.) Policy Information Exchange:

[U.S. Senator Bob Casey](#) is holding a Disability Employment Summit on April 16th from 12:30-4:00pm at the Keystone Conference Center in the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex. Senator Casey will be discussing disability employment initiatives and its impact on both productivity and workplace culture. To RSVP call (202) 224-0185 OR email casey_disabilityemploymentsummit@aging.senate.gov

Slice of PIE, Volume 19, Issue 12018 - The Policy Information Exchange brings you the **Slice of PIE**, an ongoing publication keeping our readers informed about important public policy issues. [Click here to read A Slice of Pie](#), which includes a [printable version](#); [state news and bills of interest](#); and [national news](#).

2.) LEAD Center:

Event: Advancing Financial Literacy for Individuals with Disabilities -- APRIL 18, 2018 -- 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET. People can join the event either in-person in Washington, D.C. or watch the live webinar remotely. **WATCH LIVE WEBINAR REMOTELY - REGISTER NOW**
ATTEND LIVE EVENT - REGISTER NOW

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

Disability and Health Insurance Online Self-Paced Tutorial -- The NIDILRR-funded [Collaborative on Health Reform and Independent Living \(CHRIL\)](#) has developed a course, [Disability and Health Insurance Online Self-Paced Tutorial](#). This course provides a basic understanding of the US health insurance market. It also discusses the challenges that people with disabilities face in obtaining and maintaining affordable and comprehensive insurance coverage. The course requires about 30 minutes to complete. Registration is free and required.

Webinar: 5 Things to Know About People Who Are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, or Hard of Hearing -- The NIDILRR-funded [Mid-Atlantic ADA Regional Center](#) will host a webinar, [5 Things to Know About People Who Are Deaf/Deaf-Blind/Hard of Hearing](#), April 12th, 12:30-1pm ET. Registration is free and required.

Survey of User Needs for Wireless Technologies -- The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center for Wireless Inclusive Technologies \(Wireless Inclusive RERC\)](#) continues data collection through the [Survey of User Needs \(SUN\) for Wireless Technologies](#). The SUN is the Wireless RERC's cornerstone survey on wireless technology use by people with disabilities first launched in 2001 and updated periodically in response to changes in technology. In addition to questions about cell phone and tablet use, the current survey collects information about wearables, smart home technologies, and other next-generation wirelessly-connected devices. The survey is open to all users and all disability types. User responses will help designers and engineers make new wireless devices and services for people with disabilities. Data from the SUN also provides important information to the wireless industry, government regulators, and other researchers to help them make wireless technology more accessible and more useful to people with all types of disabilities

4.) Cindy Mundis – OVR Staff:

RSA has developed an infographic highlighting key data points for the national Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program. The infographic provides general information about VR and summarizes the number of individuals involved in the VR process, the percentage of individuals served by disability type, the percentage receiving training and career services, and the employment rate. The infographic is attached and can be found through this link: <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/rsabvrs/resources/fy2016-vr-performance-chart.pdf>

5.) Mathematica Policy Research:

["Vocational Rehabilitation Outcomes for Students Participating in a Model Transition Program."](#) *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*.

Transition Innovations: Promising Vocational Rehabilitation Practices for Youth

– April 26, 2018 from Noon to 1:30 PM – Online. Recent federal policy changes require state vocational rehabilitation agencies to expand service delivery to transition-age youth and young adults with disabilities. These expanded services intend to improve youth's preparation for college and employment. [REGISTER HERE](#)

6.) DisabilityScoop.com:

Lawmakers Band Together to Defend ADA – U.S. Senate Democrats are vowing to block legislation that would dramatically alter the Americans with Disabilities Act. [Read More >](#)

Justice Department Sued Over Rescinded Disability Guidance – A lawsuit is accusing the U.S. Department of Justice of acting illegally when it

withdrew more than two-dozen guidance documents late last year, including several clarifying the ADA. [Read More >](#)

7.) Linda Williams – PaRC Support Staff:

Pennsylvania Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program -- 2018 Community of Practice Webinar Series -- Best Practices in Rural Areas -- Part 1 (of a 3 part series) -- The Martin TN Experience -- April 24, 2017 -- 2:00 - 3:30 pm – (The following is an excerpt) --

From a CEO's stand point, Tom will discuss how St. John's Community Services, a historic non-profit, merged with a rural agency in Martin TN and transformed it from center based to community based. The story will continue with the next session in May. Part 2 will be presented by Dwayne Webb who will continue the St. John's story up until the present day. Please submit any questions that you would like answered as to these topics to Devon Grant at dgrant@pa.gov prior to the webinars and we will be sure to cover those questions. **To Join the Webinar:** Please register for the PA EFSLMP Community of Practice Webinar Series at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4189428861712912386>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. **Participants only need to register one time** and they will be registered for all of the webinars in the series and will receive reminders regarding upcoming sessions. Please contact Devon Grant at (717) 783-4287 or dgrant@pa.gov with any questions you may have.

8.) Office of Disability Employment Policy:

Preparing Transition-Age Youth with Disabilities for Work -- A webinar highlighting the guide will be presented on April 11.

- [Read the ILP Guide 2.0](#) -- • [Register for the webinar](#)

LEAD Center Webinar on AJC and Section 188 -- The LEAD Center will host a webinar on April 30, that will give a snapshot of the foundation set by WIOA's disability-related provisions and Section 188. [Register for the webinar](#)

LEAD Center Releases LEAD On! Newsletter

- [Read LEAD On!](#)

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