

# **PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)**

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## **WEEKLY UPDATE: April 23, 2019**

\*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 **April 23, 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](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 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: Tentative Date: Monday, June 24, 2019 at 10:00 AM

### **Executive Committee Conference Call**

Next Call: – Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 2:00 PM

### **Legislative and Public Awareness Conference Call**

Next Call: To be Determined.

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

Next Call: Friday, May 10, 2019 at 9:30 AM

### **Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call**

Next Call: To be Determined

### **Transition & Education**

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

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](http://www.parac.org)) and fill out an application.

#### **1.) DisabilityScoop.com:**

**Workplace Disability Discrimination Complaints Decline** – For the second year in a row, complaints of disability-related job discrimination are down, according to a government report. [Read More >](#)

**School Districts Struggle with Mounting Special Ed Costs** – In some areas, federal and state dollars for students with disabilities aren't growing with special ed enrollment and parents and advocates say kids are being denied services as a result. [Read More >](#)

**Neighborhood Under Construction for Those with Special Needs** – In what developers say is a first, an entire neighborhood of brand-new homes is set to hit the market that is specifically designed for adults with developmental disabilities. [Read More >](#)

**Feds Eye Reauthorization of IDEA** – The U.S. Department of Education is laying the groundwork for a reauthorization of the nation's primary special education law. [Read More >](#)

**Trump Approves Extension of Program Helping People Leave Institutions** – New funding will ensure that a program that moves people with disabilities from institutions to the community can stick around while advocates push for a longer-term solution. [Read More >](#)

## **2.) National Institute on Disability, Independent Living & Rehabilitation Research:**

**Project Career: A New Program to Support College Students with Traumatic Brain Injuries** - This week's [Research In Focus](#) looks at a program that combines cognitive support technologies and vocational rehabilitation to support academic and employment success for college students with traumatic brain injuries.

**Issue Briefs on the Opioid Crisis and People with Disabilities** - The NIDILRR-funded project [INROADS: Intersecting Research on Opioid Misuse, Addiction, and Disability Services](#) has published [three new issue briefs](#) on how the opioid crisis may be impacting people with disabilities.

## **3.) EARN:**

[EARN Video](#) - EARN has created a new animated video to highlight the ways we help employers recruit, hire, retain and advance qualified individuals with disabilities. The video discusses the benefits of a disability-inclusive workplace and the resources available. Watch the video on EARN's About page: <http://www.askearn.org/about/>.

[Dinah Cohen Training Center for Disability Employment & Inclusion](#) - EARN's new Online Training Center is a one-stop resource for comprehensive, curated multimedia training on disability inclusion. It offers employers and others interested in disability employment strategies access to a variety of training on strategies, policies and practices for advancing inclusion of

people with disabilities in the workplace. Check out the Training Center at [askearn.org/training-center/](http://askearn.org/training-center/).

**Webinar: Data Driven Inclusion – Findings from the 2019 Disability Employment Tracker** - May 21, 2019 - 1 PM EDT - [Register Now](#)

**4.) Americans with Disabilities Act National Network:**  
[Accessible Sales and Service Counters](#) – May 2, 2019

[ADA Workshop - Denver, CO](#) - May 2, 2019 to May 3, 2019

[Customer Service for Business](#)

[Age, Hearing Loss, and Communication: What Are My Rights?](#)

[Disability Rights Laws in Public Primary and Secondary Education: How Do They Relate?](#)

**5.) Disability Rights PA:**

**Representative Payee Program** - Disability Rights Pennsylvania (DRP) is proud to announce, at the direction of the Social Security Administration (SSA), that we will now be engaging in Representative Payee reviews and advocacy. <https://www.disabilityrightspa.org/newsroom/representative-payee-program/>

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

**Mental Health Awareness Days** - Monday, May 6th, 2:30 to 3:30 in the Pennsylvania State Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg and Wednesday, May 8th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Strawberry Square in downtown Harrisburg.

**Funding Your Assistive Technology Guide** - Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation is bringing clarity to the complex process of funding assistive technology by publishing an easy-to-read guide, ***Funding Your Assistive Technology: A Guide to Funding Resources in Pennsylvania***, the first of its kind to be compiled for people with disabilities and seniors in Pennsylvania.

**7.) Pennsylvania Council of the Blind (PCB):**

**Seeking Feedback on BBVS Services** -- PCB has developed a survey to gather feedback on the quality of services being provided by the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation's Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services, which we refer to as BBVS. The survey will be open for your feedback until April 30, 2019...[Read more](#) →

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