

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: May 14, 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 **May 14, 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.

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, June 7, 2018 at 3:00 PM

OVR Policy and State Plan Committee / Customer Satisfaction Conference Call

Next Call: Tentatively - Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call

Next Call: Friday, May 18, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Transition & Education

Next Call: – To be Determined.

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:

PIE Info: Community Alliance Summit – SAVE THE DATE – 2018 PA Community Alliance Summit -- The Summit is a day of networking, discovering alliances and collaboration building among diverse organizations throughout Pennsylvania led by and/or supporting underserved/unserved populations who experience marginalization and oppression.
September 5, 2018 (evening meet & greet) -- September 6, 2018 (full day Summit) -- Harrisburg Best Western Premier. Registration details will be out in July. Any questions contact: danathomps@pa.gov or (717) 241-8103 -- [Flyer is attached](#)

2.) Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion (EARN):

Don't miss this upcoming webinar! "Hiring & Keeping the Best: Creating Effective Talent Acquisition & Retention Processes" -- May 22, 2018 -- 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. ET. In addition to taking steps to attract and recruit qualified individuals with disabilities, businesses should ensure that they are encouraging disability inclusion across the employment lifecycle. Join EARN for a webinar exploring key strategies employers can use to create policies and processes that facilitate the hiring, retention and advancement of individuals with disabilities, including disabled veterans. Participation is free, but space is limited, so be sure to [register](#) today!

3.) Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association:

May is Mental Health Month -- Visit the PMHCA website [Resources for Recovery](#) page.

Mind Matters: Stopping the stigma against mental health – Discussion regarding stopping the stigma surrounding mental health and substance abuse. [Mind Matters: A Discussion on Mental Health](#)

Read More > Microsoft Unveils \$25 Million Disability Initiative – Microsoft is putting big money into a new effort aimed at ramping up development of technologies benefiting people with disabilities. [Read More >](#)

Robot Cleared to Attend Class for Student with Special Needs – Under an agreement with federal prosecutors, a student with a disability will be able to participate in lessons and interact with peers through a robot attending class in the student's place. [Read More >](#)

Government Urged to Improve Disability Services – Services for children with disabilities should be far more coordinated and easier to access, according to a new report evaluating everything from health care and special education to employment. [Read More >](#)

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

April nTIDE: Tight Labor Market Spurs Unprecedented Job Gains for Americans with Disabilities -- The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics \(StatsRRTC\)](#) reported unprecedented job gains for Americans with disabilities in the [National Trends in Disability Employment \(nTIDE\) April 2018 Jobs Report](#). The monthly nTIDE compares the labor force participation rate and employment-population ratio between people with and without disabilities. The report notes that the continuing gains may be due to the tight labor market. The report also discusses strategies that may help close the employment gap between people with and without disabilities. These topics were also discussed in the monthly [nTIDE Lunch & Learn](#) archived on the project's website.

6.) Hearing Loss Association of America – Pittsburgh Chapter: HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA PITTSBURGH CHAPTER PUBLIC MEETING Saturday May 19 2018 -- The Hearing Loss

Association of America Pittsburgh Chapter May 19 public meeting will feature Dr Kim Mathos speaking on Maintaining Good Mental Health and Wellness: Tips and Strategies for people with hearing differences. The meeting held at DePaul School for Hearing and Speech 6202 Alder St., Shadyside, begins with refreshments at ten am. Free and open to the public. Captioning and hearing loop are provided. FMI: HLAP.news@gmail.com 412 767 9769 (use caller ID and leave msg). This is our last public meeting until September 15, 2018. We are planning a social event for a captioned movie in July. If you need help on May 15 email electionday@disabilityrightspa.org or call 717 839 5227 or 1866 687 8683 Election Protection Hotline.

MAY IS BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH

7.) ABLE National Resource Center:

WEBINAR: ABLE Program Spotlight - National ABLE Alliance --

Thursday, May 24, 2018 – 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET -- In this webinar, you will learn about the unique features of the 15-state (and growing) National ABLE Alliance program, representing almost one-quarter of the eligible ABLE population. [Register for this webinar.](#)

8.) Linda Williams (PaRC Support Staff):

The SFY17-18 Q2 report required by the Work Experience for High School Students with Disabilities Act (Act 26 of 2016) has been posted. This report and prior reports are available on [OVR's website](#).

9.) DisabledWorld.com:

[Kids with Intellectual Disabilities Spending Little Time in General Education Classes](#)

10.) ADA National Network:

[ADA in the K-12 Setting](#) -- May 16, 2018

[Postsecondary Institutions and Students With Disabilities](#)

[Reasonable Modifications to Policy, Practice & Procedure in Public Transportation](#)

[The ADA & Accessible Ground Transportation](#)

11.) National Center on Deaf-Blindness:

[Webinar: iCanConnect - The National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program](#) May 23

12.) National Technical Assistance Center on Transition:

[AB MiddleSchool&TransitionPlanning_2018_FINAL_0.pdf](#)

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