

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: May 21, 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 21, 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, June 15, 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.) National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research:

Work-Life Balance & Disability – (The following is an excerpt) -- The NIDILRR-funded project on [Getting and Keeping People with Disabilities in the Workforce: Negotiating Work, Life, and Disability](#) recently debuted a new web resource, [Work-Life Balance & Disability](#). The site will continue to be updated with new polling questions, featured publications, and more stories from employed people with disabilities.

Access Board Debuts YouTube Channel -- The [US Access Board](#) has launched a [YouTube channel](#) to share information about accessible design and the development of accessibility guidelines and standards. The channel also includes animations on accessibility that the Board has developed as part of its online guide to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) Accessibility Standards.

Webinar: Effective Communication -- The NIDILRR-funded [Northeast ADA Regional Center](#) will host a webinar, [Effective Communication](#), May 23rd, 1-2:30 pm ET. Presenters will discuss effective communication in the medical setting from the perspective of the person with a disability and from the medical provider. The presenters will also discuss best practices for creating a positive and clear exchange between provider and patient. Registration is free and required.

2.) Linda Williams (PaRC Support Staff):

The following announcement is from the Rehabilitation Services

Administration: A Request for Information (RFI) on the Future Direction of the Rehabilitation Training Program was posted in the Federal Register on May 4, 2018. The U.S. Department of Education (Department) is requesting input on the portfolio of grants supported under the Rehabilitation Training Program, specifically those supported under the Rehabilitation Long-Term Training, Rehabilitation Short-Term Training, and Innovative Rehabilitation Training authorities to determine whether the activities funded under the Rehabilitation Training Program are aligned with the goals of the Department and the needs of State vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies. We will use the information gathered in response to this request for information (RFI) to determine whether any changes are needed in designing and implementing grant activities under this program, including the specific mix of activities supported each year. Comments must be received on or before July 3, 2018. [Click here for the RFI](#)

Washington Alert - HR 5658 - the Workplace Choice and Flexibility for Individuals with Disabilities Act

– (The following is an excerpt) -- Today, in Washington the most contentious disability policy issue concerns the role of integration in the employment of people with disabilities. The question of what constitutes competitive integrated employment is gaining

attention from the Congress and from the Trump Administration. On May 9, 2018, the U.S. Department of Education announced its intent to revisit the definitions contained in its WIOA regulations. While not explicitly stated, it is reasonably certain that the regulatory definition of integrated setting will be among the topics opened for review. The Department's notice indicated that Secretary DeVos plans to issue a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to "amend regulatory definitions in 34 CFR part 361 implementing programs under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, made by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act."

<https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eAgendaViewRule?pubId=201804&RIN=1820-AB79> -- It is unlikely that H.R. 5658 will move before the Department of Education completes its regulatory review; however, given the interest in the definition of competitive integrated employment by the Trump Administration and the Congress, the issue is likely to continue to dominate disability policy debate for the foreseeable future.

3.) ABLÉ National Resource Center:

New Webinar Open for Registration: ABLÉ Program Spotlight Series Featuring the National ABLÉ Alliance

- Every other month the ABLÉ National Resource Center will conduct an "ABLE Program Spotlight" webinar. In this webinar, you will learn about the unique features of the 15-state (and growing) National ABLÉ Alliance program, representing almost one-quarter of the eligible ABLÉ population. Topics will include: Brief summary of the ABLÉ Act; Why the Alliance came together; What Alliance member plans offer; The Alliance moving forward. The webinar will be held on **Thursday, May 24 from 2:00-3:00 pm ET**. [REGISTER NOW](#)

Webinar Archive Available: Social Security's Updated ABLÉ Guidance

- **A Deeper Dive** -- A recording of April's webinar "Social Security's Updated ABLÉ Guidance - A Deeper Dive" is now available. [Visit the webinar archive](#).

4.) American Association of People with Disabilities:

[Announcing the AAPD Career Center](#) -- We are proud to introduce our redesigned AAPD Career Center (jobs.aapd.com): a premier source for people with disabilities to search and land professional careers with leading employers. The AAPD Career Center will attract the world's leading companies and universities to find qualified and diverse candidates. The new AAPD Career Center makes it easier than ever to find the right opportunities for you.

[Experiential Education Initiative Internship](#) - The Experiential Education Initiative (EEI) Internship at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is a semester-long, paid internship for individuals with intellectual disabilities, 19 to 30 years of age. The program also provides access to cultural arts experiences at the Kennedy Center, opportunities for social and

personal growth, and develops work-readiness skills for success in transition to the workplace. **Apply by July 13, 2018 for the Fall 2018 program.**

[National ADA Symposium](#) -- June 17-20, 2018 | Pittsburgh, PA -- The National ADA Symposium provides the latest information on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations and guidelines, implementation strategies, and best practices.

[Candidates with Disabilities Running for Office in 2018 and 2019](#) -- The National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) is tracking candidates with disabilities running campaigns for elected positions at local, state, and national levels of government in the United States in 2018 and 2019 and has compiled these candidates into a database.

[Mobile Workplace Accommodation Case Management App](#)

The Job Accommodation Network just released a Mobile Accommodation Solution app available from the Apple App and Google Play Stores. This first-generation Mobile Workplace Accommodation Case Management App can support US businesses in creating workplaces that are more inclusive of individuals with disabilities.

[Meeting the Needs of Adults with Disabilities in the Marketplace](#) --

The needs of adults with disabilities are frequently overlooked in the marketplace and when businesses are designing and promoting products and services. But a new report from the American Institutes for Research (AIR) finds that inclusive hiring practices and involving people with disabilities in product development and advertisement can help businesses access a market worth billions of dollars.

[Warren, Colleagues Press Department of Labor on Subminimum Wages for Workers with Disabilities](#) --

Last month, Senator Elizabeth Warren and six of her senate colleagues requested information from Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta on the Department of Labor's (DOL) oversight and enforcement of employers that use 14(c) waivers to hire workers with disabilities and pay them less than the federal minimum wage. The senators also expressed support for phasing out the discriminatory waivers in a responsible way.

5.) DisabilityScoop.com:

Lawmakers Weigh Tighter Lease on Animals in Flight – With an increasing number of animals taking to the skies on U.S. airlines, Congress may start pulling a tighter leash on what qualifies as a service or support animal on airplanes. [Read More >](#)

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