

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: May 29, 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 29, 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: – Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 2:00 PM

Legislative and Public Awareness Conference Call

Next Call: Thursday, May 31, 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.) Association of People Supporting Employment First:

[Statement Regarding the Department of Education's Notice to Revise the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Regulations](#) -- The Collaboration to Promote Self Determination (CPSD), the Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE), and the National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) are dedicated to the full inclusion, independence and economic self-sufficiency of people with disabilities. [read more](#)

PA APSE Statewide Day on Employment: Let's All Work Together - Tuesday, June 12 -- Time: 10 am - 4 pm -- PATTAN, Harrisburg, 6340 Flank Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112 -- APSE members, FREE; Free to Self-advocates and their family members; Non- Members, \$25. Please RSVP/Register with Verna Morris at vmorris@paquest.com with your name, affiliation, contact information and if you need any accessibility accommodations by Friday, June 8. **Walk-ins will not be accepted.** Bring your own coffee - Lunch will be provided! Send Checks made out to: PA APSE and mail to: Verna Morris, Executive Director - QUEST, Inc. 704 Metro Dr., Lebanon, PA 17042

2.) National Disability Institute (Real Economic Input):
[National Disability Institute Releases Brief Based on FINRA Investor Education Foundation Data](#)

3.) National Disability Rights Network:
CPSD, APSE and NDRN Statement Regarding the Department of Education's Notice to Revise the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Regulations...[read more.](#)

4.) DisabilityScoop.com:
Nation's Largest Employer Misses Disability Hiring Goal – The U.S. government is falling short on a plan to dramatically increase hiring of people with intellectual disability and other conditions, according to a new report. [Read More >](#)

5.) Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association:
Mental health services are covered by all Affordable HealthCare Coverage insurance plans (often referred to as ObamaCare) -- Taking care of your mental health is just as important as your physical health. During your annual check up, your provider can facilitate a mental health screening and drug or alcohol screenings, along with your blood pressure and cholesterol checks. [Learn more about seeking care for your mental and physical health.](#)

6.) National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research:
Mobile Accommodation Solution App -- The NIDILRR-funded project [Mobile Accommodation Tool: Development, Implementation, and Evaluation](#) has released the [Mobile Accommodation Solution \(MAS\)](#), a first-generation

mobile case management app for iOS and Android. Employers, service providers, and individuals can use the app to effectively address workplace accommodation requests throughout the employment lifecycle, from application to onboarding to advancement. The app provides users with a suite of fillable, accessible forms and the capability to store, print, and email records that can be imported into enterprise-level information systems. MAS also includes emerging policies and best practices in workplace accommodations. The app is available free from the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).

Employment Mentoring Research Highlighted in Eye on Vision -- Karla Antonelli, PhD, co-principal investigator of the NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Employment for Individuals with Blindness or Other Visual Impairment](#), was interviewed in a [recent episode of Eye on Vision](#) on [WYPL-FM](#), Memphis Public Libraries' broadcast radio station. Dr. Antonelli discussed the results of an employment mentoring project for college students who are blind. Results included a significant increase in student assertiveness in job hunting and an improvement in job-seeking self-efficacy and career adaptability among mentees. This study was also highlighted in a [recent Research In Focus](#).

7.) Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation:

PATF Announces an Increase in Maximum Loan Amounts -- Our board has recently approved an increase in the maximum amount we will extend for our 0% interest Mini-Loans: **up to \$2,000!** We have also increased the amount we will extend as a Guaranteed Low-Interest Loan: **up to \$35,000!** This means we'll be able to offer more affordable loans to more Pennsylvanians of all ages, all income levels, and all disabilities and health conditions. Learn more about [our loan program here](#)

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT: Program Associate and Underwriter -- PATF is pleased to announce the opening of the full-time position of Program Associate and Underwriter. [Learn more about this position and apply.](#)

[Rep. Matt Gabler 2018 Disability and Senior Resource Fair](#) -- St. Mary's, PA - July 25th from 9am-1pm -- Join us! The expo is a great opportunity for senior citizens, as well as members of our community living with disabilities, to check out all that is available to them.

8.) Pennsylvania Society for the Advancement of the Deaf:

The Pennsylvania Society for the Advancement of the Deaf is currently looking for candidates to fill in a few roles as a Board Member with duties as Corresponding Secretary and Member-At-Large (MAL). We also are looking for volunteers who want to be Event Coordinator and/or Deaf-Blind Section Chair. [Board and Non-Board position Descriptions](#) -- [Application](#)

9.) Passle Helminski (PaRC Council Member):

Senate Committee Votes to Advance Marrakesh Treaty - National Federation of the Blind Commends Committee Vote -- The Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate voted unanimously today (05-22-18) in favor of advancing the Marrakesh Treaty to the full Senate for its advice and consent. The National Federation of the Blind commends the vote. "The National Federation of the Blind was a principal leader in the development and negotiation of the Marrakesh Treaty." "By allowing the worldwide production and exchange of accessible books, the treaty will dramatically increase the availability of knowledge to blind people everywhere.

10.) UCP of Central PA:

CRITICAL CALL TO ACTION -- Despite our best efforts, Governor Wolf did not set aside additional funding in the state budget to address the urgent need to raise wages for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) in PA. The budget is now in the hands of the PA House and Senate. The next week or so leading up to the **June 4th Disability Funding Rally** are absolutely critical to this year's appeal to raise DSP wages and #FIXTHEDSPCRISIS! **We are calling on you to set aside a few minutes of your time, just once over the next week or so, to ask your legislators to allocate \$60 million for this purpose.** That may sound like a lot of money, but in reality it only translates to somewhere in the neighborhood of a 50 cent/hour increase for grossly underpaid direct care workers- for whom government funding is the sole source of their wages. **Tell Your Story!**



11.) David Mann (PaRC Council Member):

Wheelchair Accessible Van Parking Awareness - According to a survey by BraunMobility, 57% of respondents didn't know what the striped spaces around a handicap parking spot indicated and 15% of respondents didn't know striped spaces around a handicap parking spot meant anything at all. Well, the striped spaces do mean something—they reserve the space needed for wheelchair users to enter and exit side-entry wheelchair vans. The attached infographic and YouTube video linked to below describe this well to those who may not know. Please learn about this and help educate others. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZIHBozUBc>

12.) PADES:

Save the Date – PADES 2018 – October 31 and November 1 at the Hilton Harrisburg in Harrisburg, PA. [Download Flyer Here](#)

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