

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: May 30, 2019

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 30, 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 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: – 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:

Friday, June 14, 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) and fill out an application.

1.) DisabilityScoop.com:

ABLE Accounts Shouldn't Impede Access to Housing, Feds Say –

Federal officials are weighing in on how money saved in a relatively new type of savings account for people with disabilities influences access to housing assistance. [Read More >](#)

Ed Department Says States Must Comply with Special Education Rule

– The U.S. Department of Education is telling states to follow a new special education regulation just weeks after saying it will continue fighting the rule in court. [Read More >](#)

Corporate America Urged to Increase Disability Hiring –

A group of major investors with over \$1 trillion in assets is looking to use its clout to pressure companies into hiring more people with disabilities. [Read More >](#)

Disability Advocates Worry “Conscience Rule” Could Spell Trouble –

A new Trump administration rule granting health care providers greater latitude to decline care they disagree with could have serious ramifications for people with disabilities, advocates say. [Read More >](#)

2.) Disabled-World.com:

[Disability ID Cards - How and Where to Obtain One](#) - List of locations and contact information of places that provide Disability ID Cards, or similar forms of identification for people with disabilities.

3.) Mathematica's Center for Studying Disability Policy:

Serving Medicaid Beneficiaries Who Need Long-Term Services and Supports: Better Outcomes at Lower Costs

- Join Mathematica's Center for Studying Disability Policy on **June 5, 2019, from noon to 1:30 p.m. (ET)** for a discussion of the needs of people whose HCBS services are the costliest and strategies for cost-effectively serving them. [Register for event.](#)

4.) National Institute on Disability, Independent living and Rehabilitation Research:

Job Crafting Study - The NIDILRR-funded project [Career Self-Management Through Job Crafting for People with Physical and Mild Cognitive Disabilities: A Mixed Methods Study](#)

seeks adults with disabilities for a [study to develop and test a program to help people to re-envision and refine aspects of their job](#) (PDF). Participants must be between 18 and 64 years of age with a physical or health condition that limits their work performance, currently working or returning to work, have at least 1 year of work experience, and may not be participating in any workers compensation program.

Participation is online, so there are no travel requirements. Participants may receive up to \$100 for their time. For more information or to volunteer, contact Kristin King at 603/862-1924 or kristin.king@unh.edu

5.) Policy Information Exchange:

Nearly \$1.5M Extended in Loans to Pennsylvanians with Disabilities for Assistive Technology in 2018 - On Monday, June 3, 2019,

Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation (PATF) will hold its annual press conference at 10:30 a.m. at the Capitol Upper Rotunda in Harrisburg, PA. PATF's incoming Board President, Nancy Murray, President of The Arc of Greater Pittsburgh/[ACHIEVA](#), will present a short outline of our programs and accomplishments from the last year. PATF is celebrating the release of [Funding Your Assistive Technology: A Guide to Funding Resources in Pennsylvania](#) as well as its new [Annual Report](#), both of which will be available at the event. If you cannot attend in person, we hope you will join us on [Facebook](#), where we will livestream the event. Scheduled speakers include: Senators **Camera Bartolotta**, **Bob Mensch**, and **Christine Tartaglione**; Representatives **Sheryl Delozier**, **Patty Kim**, **Brandon Markosek**, and **Melissa Shusterman**; **David Gates**, Esq., Senior Attorney, [PA Health Law Project](#), who will discuss the importance of integrating financial education into community programming and PATF's upcoming conference, [Vision for the Future: Financial Empowerment Conference for Individuals with Disabilities](#); **Abbie Spackman** and **Kendra Martin**, [AgrAbility PA Project](#), who will talk about PA's AgrAbility program and how PATF and AgrAbility collaborate to help Pennsylvania's farmers with disabilities in production agriculture; and **D.J. Stemmler**, a PATF borrower featured in this year's Annual Report.

6.) Mathematica's Center for Studying Disability Policy:

Investing in Better Outcomes for Students with Disabilities - Students with disabilities are less likely than their peers without disabilities to graduate high school, go on to postsecondary education, or get a job. These transitions can be smoother, however, when they are planned and supported by the necessary resources. Recent initiatives made possible through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) are helping students take full advantage of five promising pre-employment transition services. In this blog post, Mathematica experts Stephen Lipscomb and Todd Honeycutt provide insights and highlight the opportunity that vocational rehabilitation agencies and school districts must partner in improving post-school outcomes for students with disabilities. [Read more](#).

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

MSKTC and Model System Win Silver Telly Award - [Exercise and Fitness After Spinal Cord Injury \(SCI\)](#), a video produced by the NIDILRR-funded [Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center \(MSKTC\)](#) in collaboration with researchers and individuals with SCI from the NIDILRR-funded [University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury](#), was awarded a [2019 Silver](#)

[Telly Award](#). The 19-minute video features individuals with SCI who share their fitness routines and explain how exercise has improved their quality of life.

Webinar: nTIDE Lunch & Learn - The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Employment Policy and Measurement \(EPM-RRTC\)](#) will host the June session of the [National Trends in Disability Employment \(nTIDE\) Lunch & Learn](#) webinar series, June 7th, 12-1pm ET. The webinar will feature details of the latest Jobs Report release from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and how it fits into longer term employment trends for people with disabilities. Registration is free and required. [Past episodes of the nTIDE Lunch & Learn webinar series can be found in the archives.](#)

ADA Live! Effective Communication, Accessible Health Care, and the ADA - The NIDILRR-funded [Southeast ADA Regional Center](#) will host the latest episode of ADA Live!, [Effective Communication, Accessible Health Care, and the ADA, June 5th, 1-1:30pm ET](#). Presenters will discuss recent studies that indicate that people with disabilities experience both health disparities and specific barriers in access to health care programs and services. They will also discuss health care access and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the role of effective communication in health care decisions, and how health care providers and facilities can be more inclusive of patients with disabilities. No registration is required, and questions may be submitted in advance.

Ageing and Disability Study - The NIDILRR-funded project [Building Capacity to Improve Community Participation for People Aging with Long-Term Disability Through Evidence-Based Strategies](#) seeks adults with physical disabilities to participate in the [Ageing and Disability Study](#). Researchers aim to learn more about the chronic health conditions people living with long-term disabilities experience as they age, as well as how they participate and engage in their communities and with family and friends. Participants will be asked to complete three surveys over two years, online or by phone, and will be compensated for their time. Complete the screening questionnaire to determine eligibility.

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