

# **PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)**

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## **WEEKLY UPDATE: June 4, 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 **June 4, 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: – 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](http://www.parac.org)) and fill out an application.

### **1.) Hearing Loss Association of America:**

**WEBINAR: 21st Century Solutions for Hearing Loss: We've Got You Covered!** - Jun 12 @ 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm

### **2.) DisabilityScoop.com:**

**Labor Department Seeks Input on Subminimum Wage** – Amid ongoing debate about whether employers should be able to pay people with disabilities less than minimum wage, federal officials are asking the public to weigh in. [Read More >](#)

**Amazon Removes More Books Peddling Autism "Cures"** – For the second time this year, online retail giant Amazon says it has pulled multiple books from its site that claim to offer cures for autism and other conditions. [Read More >](#)

**Bike-Share Programs Adding Adaptive Offerings** – With short-term rental of bikes, scooters and more exploding in cities across the country, some programs are starting to include people with disabilities. [Read More](#)

### **3.) Policy Information Exchange:**

#### **We want to hear from you - Section 14(c) National Online Dialogue –**

The U.S. Department of Labor's [Office of Disability Employment Policy](#) (ODEP), through its ePolicyWorks initiative, is hosting the [Section 14\(c\) National Online Dialogue](#) to gather perspectives on Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act. We invite you to share your ideas, individual stories, and personal experiences illustrating the impact of Section 14(c) on the employment of people with disabilities. Our goal is to capture perspectives about Section 14(c) based on individual input from those "on the ground." The information gathered during this important online dialogue will provide ODEP with an opportunity to better understand the current landscape, as well as the potential future of Section 14(c). This online event is open to the general public. We strongly encourage individuals with disabilities, their families, providers, disability organizations, employers, researchers, and other stakeholders who have experience with or opinions about Section 14(c) to share their perspectives and ideas for the future. To participate, visit [14cDialogue.IdeaScale.com](#) and register to share your experiences and ideas, and to comment on ideas submitted by others. We look forward to your contributions.

### **4.) Mathematica:**

#### **In the News This Week:**

["Many Are Replacing Disability Checks with Paychecks."](#)

["2020 Democrats Put Spotlight on Disabilities Issues."](#)

["47 States Call On Betsy Devos to Forgive Student Loans for Disabled Veterans."](#)

## **5.) American Association of People with Disabilities:**

[National Investors Call for Workplace Disability Inclusion](#) - Thanks in large part to AAPD's board chair, Ted Kennedy, Jr., last week we had an unprecedented action by some of the nation's leading institutional investors. These investors called on companies they invest in to create inclusive workplaces that can benefit from employing the millions of talented people with disabilities who remain underrepresented in the workforce.

[National Disability Voter Registration Week \(NDVRW, July 15 -19, 2019\)](#) - The [REV UP Campaign](#) coordinates National Disability Voter Registration Week (NDVRW) each year on the third week of July to increase the political power of people with disabilities while also engaging candidates and the media to recognize the disability community. The first step to achieving political power is getting registered to vote! This year, NDVRW is July 15 - 19, 2019. Learn how to participate [here](#).

[Elevate: Campaign Training for People with Disabilities](#) - With the financial support of the AAPD Paul G. Hearne Emerging Leader Award, NCIL has launched a five-week campaign training series where expert political consultants will teach you the skills you need to take your leadership to elected office.

[National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities \(Center for Parents\)](#) - The Center for Parents is a collaborative research and advocacy project supporting parents with disabilities.

[Volkswagen Group of America's Inclusive Mobility Initiative](#) - The mission of the Inclusive Mobility program is to help design vehicles and services that improve transportation and the quality of life for everyone, especially people with disabilities.

## **6.) Employer Assistance & Resource Network on Disability Inclusion:**

[Amazon's Employment of ASL Interpreters.](#)

## **7.) National Federation of the Blind:**

[Uber and Lyft Still Denying Rides to Those with Service Animals](#)

[National Convention](#) - The National Federation of the Blind National Convention is the largest gathering of blind people in the world.

[Accessibility Boutiques](#)\_ Accessibility boutiques are workshops presented by our access technology experts that provide introductions to accessibility best practices and the latest trends in access tech.

[Scholarship Program](#) - The National Federation of the Blind's annual scholarship program is the largest of its kind in the nation.

[Blindness Experience Teaching Internship](#)\_ The blindness experience teaching internship is designed for professionals who are either currently working with blind individuals or who are preparing to work in the blindness field.

### **8.) Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association:**

**Call to Care, Inc., Mission of Mercy Pittsburgh - Free Two-Day Dental Clinic - Friday, July 26th and Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>.** The signature program of a Call to Care, Inc., Mission of Mercy Pittsburgh, is a **free, two-day dental clinic** for under-served people living in Pittsburgh and the surrounding area, including working families who do not have access to dental work or cannot afford dental insurance. ALL services are provided FREE of charge by local dental professionals, assisted by a host of volunteers. Friday, July 26th and Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> - PPG Paints Arena, 1001 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15219 - doors open at 6 a.m., clinic opens at 7 a.m. Treatments offered will include: diagnosis by a dentist, minor restorative fillings, extractions, and cleanings. Additionally, we will connect patients to the agencies that are available for further treatment in our community and educate them on the importance of good oral health. **Visit website.**

### **Tax/Housing: HUD Issues Guidance on Treatment of ABLE Accounts -**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently issued long-awaited guidance clarifying that funds in ABLE accounts should not be included in determining a person's eligibility for means-tested housing assistance. Some people with disabilities and their families have heard confusing or inaccurate information about whether or not participation in ABLE could threaten their receipt of other critical federal benefits. The notice is good news for people in HUD-funded programs and should be helpful in addressing questions about the treatment of ABLE account funds. If you have any questions visit the ABLE website at **[www.able-now.com](http://www.able-now.com)**

### **9.) Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association:**

**PA ABLE Upcoming Webinar** - The next webinar about PA ABLE account is scheduled for: **Wednesday, June 12, 2019 from 1 to 2 p.m.** Individuals, families and professionals can register for the webinar at: **[www.paable.gov/webinar](http://www.paable.gov/webinar)**.

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