

# **PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)**

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## **WEEKLY UPDATE: July 16, 2018**

\*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 **July 16, 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](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 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, July 17, 2018 at 2:00 PM

### **Legislative and Public Awareness Conference Call**

Next Call: To be Determined.

### **OVR Policy and State Plan Committee / Customer Satisfaction Conference Call**

Next Call: Tuesday, August 7, 2018 at 10:00 AM

### **Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call**

Next Call: Tentatively Tuesday, August 14, 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, a Business or Industry Representative and a Community Rehabilitation Provider representative. If interested please go to our website ([www.parac.org](http://www.parac.org)) and fill out an application. Thank you.

### **1.) Mathematica Policy Research:**

Henning-Smith, Carrie, and Gilbert Gimm. "[The Relationship Between Employment, Gender, and Living Arrangements for Working-Age Adults with Disabilities.](#)" *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, vol. 48, no. 3, 2018, pp. 393–401.

Mann, David R., and Sarah Croake. "[Learning from State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies on the Eve of WIOA: State Differences in Service Receipt and Employment Outcomes by Applicant Employment Status.](#)" *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*, vol. 48, no. 3, 2018, pp. 369–386.

### **2.) Cindy Mundis – OVR Bureau Manager:**

Over the next few months, you will see a new landing page for the JobGateway® site to help make the site more user-centric. The name of the site will change to PA CareerLink® to more clearly connect it to the brand. The URL will also change to [www.pacareerlink.pa.gov](http://www.pacareerlink.pa.gov). Labor & Industry is also using the rebranding campaign as opportunity to offer PA CareerLink® staff with customized trainings on customer service and business engagement.

### **3.) DisabilityScoop.com:**

**Trump Administration Delays Special Ed Rule** - The Trump administration is officially postponing implementation of an Obama-era rule designed to prevent kids from certain backgrounds from being wrongly placed in special education. [Read More >](#)

### **4.) National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research:**

**People with Disabilities May Offer an Untapped Volunteer Pool for Organizations** -- This week's [Research In Focus](#) finds that people with disabilities spend as much time volunteering in their communities as people without disabilities, but organizations may not be reaching out to engage them. Volunteer organizations can do more to make their programs inclusive and tap into this volunteer pool.

**FINDS Community Report 2017** -- The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Community Living for People with Intellectual Disabilities \(RTC/CL\)](#) has released the [FINDS Community Report 2017](#), detailing findings from the Family & Individual Needs for Disability Support (FINDS) study. The FINDS study sheds light on the experiences of families who provide supports to a family member with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. The report includes key findings from the study which highlight the scope, intensity, and duration of the supports provided by family members, particularly parents, and discusses policies that support family caregivers to reduce economic and other impacts. This study was conducted in collaboration with The Arc of the United States

**Webcast: Improvement and Use of Social Skills in the Labor Market for People with Physical Disabilities** - The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Employment of Individuals with Physical Disabilities](#) will host a webcast, [Improvement and Use of Social Skills in the Labor Market for People with Physical Disabilities](#), July 26th, 2-2:45 pm ET. Presenters will discuss multiple efforts to address and understand the use of social skills in the labor market and will present findings on the use of social capital and social roles to influence the starting wage for people with disabilities. Registration is free and required.

**Webinar: Ticket to Work and Reasonable Accommodations** - The [Social Security Administration \(SSA\)](#) will host a webinar, [Ticket to Work and Reasonable Accommodations](#), July 25th, 3-4:30 pm ET. Presenters will discuss SSA's [Ticket to Work](#) program and support programs for people with disabilities who are ready to work. Presenters will also provide information about reasonable accommodations for employees with disabilities. Registration is free and required. Previous webinars are available in the archive.

**5.) Jill Kovalcik-Weaver (PaRC Support Staff):**

**Plastic straw ban: Here's why people with disabilities are upset**

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/medical/plastic-straw-ban-heres-why-people-with-disabilities-are-upset/ar-AAzWA4N?li=BBnba90>

This Underwear Model Posing in a Wheelchair Is Breaking Stereotypes and We Couldn't Be Happier <https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/wellness/this-underwear-model-posing-in-a-wheelchair-is-breaking-stereotypes-and-we-couldn%e2%80%99t-be-happier/ar-AAzWJXm?li=BBnba90>

**6.) DPW Government Disability:**

**Pennsylvania Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program 2018 Community of Practice Webinar Series -- The Use of Assistive Technology and Conversations with Employers -- July 24, 2018 --**

**2:00 - 3:30 pm** – (The following is an excerpt) - How can you discuss with an employer how equipment might be used, how it will be paid for, and who might be of assistance in making this work? Join us to hear about communication with potential employers about the successful use of Assistive Technology while on the job. Please submit any questions that you would like answered as to these topics to Devon Grant at [dgrant@pa.gov](mailto:dgrant@pa.gov) or (717) 783-4287 prior to the webinars and we will be sure to cover those questions. Please register for the PA EFSLMP Community of Practice Webinar Series at

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4189428861712912386>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information

about joining the webinar. Recordings of past webinars and related resources can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/Emp1st>.

### **7.) Passle Helminski (PaRC Council Member):**

#### **Express Employment Professionals Makes Testing Accessible to Blind Job Seekers**

– (The following is an excerpt) -- Baltimore, Maryland (July 11, 2018): Express Employment Professionals, a leading national staffing company, has committed to ensuring that its employee testing solutions can be used by blind and low-vision job seekers and employees. The decision was made after consultation with the National Federation of the Blind, the oldest and largest nationwide organization of blind people in the United States and a leading advocate for equal employment and digital accessibility. The commitment means that Express' testing solutions will be usable by blind applicants who access computers and digital information with technologies like text-to-speech screen readers and/or Braille displays.

### **8.) SSI-Youth:**

#### **Topical Webinar: Part Three of a Five-Part Series on the Transition to Employment for Youth Receiving SSI**

-- Tuesday, July 31, at 2 p.m. (ET)

-- **Topic:** Innovations in Education for Youth Recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Join us for the third topical webinar in a five-part series hosted by the SSI Youth Recipient and Employment Transition Formative Research Project. This project is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy. The webinar will highlight education interventions that engage students, families, and professionals and promote the seamless transition from school to work. Attendees will learn about models that engage students in career and work experiences that lead to competitive, integrated employment. Think College will share strategies and lessons learned on inclusive postsecondary options that prepare youth with disabilities for careers. CaPROMISE will showcase its secondary education intervention and the impact of the intervention on education outcomes for youth receiving SSI. Click the link below to register. <https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/1771954/5924B03C53A0341B17E6AF2CB8E4B0C6>

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