

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: August 8, 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 **August 8, 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

CareerLink/WIOA

Next Call: Tentatively – Monday, October 15, 2018 at 11:00 AM

Executive Committee Conference Call

Next Call: – Monday, August 13, 2018 at 2:00 PM

Legislative and Public Awareness Conference Call

Next Call: Thursday, August 9, 2018 at 3:30 PM

OVR Policy and State Plan Committee / Customer Satisfaction Conference Call

Next Call: Tuesday, September 11, 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: – Tentatively - Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 2:00 PM

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) and fill out an application. Thank you.

1.) ABLE National Resource Center:

Advocacy Groups Celebrate the ADA by Taking Action to Expand Eligibility for ABLE -- To celebrate the 28th anniversary of ADA's

enactment, please take a few minutes to call or email your legislators to ask

them to support the ABLE Age Adjustment Act ([S.817](#) and [HR 1874](#)). This bill would amend Section 529A(e) of the Internal Revenue Code to increase the eligibility for ABLE accounts for onset of disability from prior to age 26 to prior to age 46 so that millions more people with disabilities can take advantage of this important savings tool. Together we can advocate to #ExpandABLE and pass the #ABLEAgeAdjustment Act. [Learn more about how you can take action to expand ABLE eligibility.](#)

The ABLE National Resource Center Partners with the Special Needs Alliance to Help Expand ABLE Education – The [Special Needs Alliance \(SNA\)](#) and [ABLE National Resource Center \(ANRC\)](#) have agreed to collaborate on efforts to educate individuals with disabilities, their families and other stakeholders on how ABLE accounts and special needs trusts (SNTs) can contribute to improved quality of life. ABLE accounts and SNTs can supplement those benefits without affecting an individual's eligibility for them. [Learn more about the partnership between the ABLE NRC and the SNA.](#)

Webinar Archive: [Advantages of ABLE for Those Not Receiving Public Benefits](#) -- A recording of June's webinar, "[Advantages of ABLE for Those Not Receiving Public Benefits](#)," is now available. [Visit the webinar archive.](#)

ABLE National Resource Center Launches 2018 #ABLEtoSave Campaign -- August 2018 is #ABLEtoSave month - during each of the four weeks in August, ANRC will provide resources. Each week will focus on a different theme: The primary goals of #ABLEtoSave are to increase awareness about ABLE accounts and the amount of ABLE accounts opened across the country. [Learn more about #ABLEtoSave.](#) Join us on **Wednesday, August 8, from 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST**, for the first webinar in our #ABLEtoSave series! **"Basic Overview of ABLE" -- REGISTER Eligibility** – August 15, 2018 -- 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST -- **REGISTER Qualified Disability Expenses** – August 22, 2018 -- 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST **REGISTER Enrollment and Beyond** – August 29, 2018 – 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST **REGISTER**

2.) LEAD Center:

LEAD Center Releases New Neurodiversity Brief -- The LEAD Center recently released the new Neurodiversity Brief, "*Building an Accessible Workforce Development System: Recommendations to American Job Centers on Supporting Autistic People and Others with Disabilities to Promote Successful Employment.*" **Download the Neurodiversity Brief**

3.) National Rehabilitation Association:

Best Practices in Disability Employment - DRIVE Website -- The Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) within the U.S. Department of Labor has launched the Data & Resources to Inspire a Vision of Employment (DRIVE) website. DRIVE supports state efforts to increase competitive integrated employment by providing information on state policies, practices, technical assistance initiatives, and outcomes that are focused directly or indirectly on the employment of individuals with disabilities. For more information, visit: [DRIVE: Homedrivedisabilityemployment.org/](http://DRIVE:Homedrivedisabilityemployment.org/)

The National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth has produced a brief on "Providing Quality Career Development within Youth Development & Leadership Programs. The guide helps organizations assess the extent to which they currently provide quality career development opportunities and suggests ways to integrate more career development skills into their programs. By incorporating more career development activities into their work, youth development and leadership programs can ensure that youth with disabilities acquire the competencies they need to enter and succeed in employment and to make informed decisions throughout their careers. [Providing Quality Career Development within Youth Development & Leadership Programs](#)

4.) DisabilityScoop.com:

Federal Disability Policy Office Proposed – Federal policy is often implemented with little consideration for how it will impact people with disabilities, but that could change under a new proposal. [Read More >](#)

Community Living Agency Denies Disability Segregation Remarks – A federal agency responsible for community living is reaffirming its mission following allegations that a top official publicly said she favored “segregation” of people with disabilities. [Read More >](#)

5.) Policy Information Exchange (PIE):

PIE Info: New Department of Health Website -- The Pennsylvania Department of Health launched a new website aimed at ensuring consumers who are looking for health information can find it, whether on a mobile device, tablet, or computer. The revamped website helps promote healthy lifestyles; provides valuable information about disease and injury prevention and helps Pennsylvanians looking for information about medical marijuana, the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, home health services and hospice, the nurse aid registry hospitals, surgical facilities and nursing homes, etc. in a streamlined fashion. The site also contains a new feature, called the E-Library, which contains all the documents publicly available from the Department. In the E-Library, visitors can filter by topic or type of document to easily find a specific document. Additional information on our role in improving the health of Pennsylvania can be found on the [Department of Health’s website](#).

6.) American Association of People with Disabilities:

2019 AAPD Paul G. Hearne Emerging Leader Awards -- Through the [AAPD Paul G. Hearne Emerging Leader Awards](#), the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) recognizes outstanding emerging leaders with disabilities who exemplify leadership, advocacy, and dedication to the broader cross-disability community. The recipients of the 2019 AAPD Paul G. Hearne Emerging Leader Awards will be honored among national disability leaders at the [AAPD Leadership Awards Gala](#), held in Washington, DC on March 12, 2019he broader cross-disability community. **Applications for the 2019 AAPD Paul G. Hearne Leadership Awards are due by 5pm Eastern Time on October 1, 2018.**

[Apply for the 2019 AAPD Paul G. Hearne Leadership Awards](#)

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

Open Letter to the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and the DeafBlind (DHHDB) Community from Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. (RID).
<https://www.rid.org/2018/08/openletter-to-dhhdb-community/>

Starbucks' First U.S. Location Designed for the Deaf Community Will Be On H Street -- In October, Starbucks will open its first branch in the US that will be run entirely in American Sign Language. The store will be in Washington, DC.

8.) Linda Williams (PaRC Support Staff):

Overview of SSDI: Benefits and Work Incentives You Need to Know -

- Please join us on **Tuesday, August 14th at 1:00 p.m.** for the webinar: *Overview of SSDI: Benefits and Work Incentives You Need to Know*. Many people believe that if they receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) that they cannot work without losing their benefits. This webinar will explain SSDI and how the Social Security Administration defines disability. It will also cover important work incentives and other amendments to the Social Security Act that provide beneficiaries with disabilities reasons to return to work. The webinar will also share resources for SSDI beneficiaries interested in returning to work. **REGISTER.** *Please note: Real-time captioning will be provided for this webinar series. For other accommodation requests, questions about the webinar or the registration process, please contact Shajira Brown at sbrown@ndi-inc.org*

9.) Jill Kovalcik-Weaver (PaRC Support Staff):

On 8/10/18, JobGateway will be known as Pennsylvania CareerLink. The website URL will change from www.jobgateway.pa.gov to www.pacareerlink.pa.gov.

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