

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: August 20, 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 20, 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: – 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: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call

Next Call: Tentatively – To be Determined

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.) DisabilityScoop.com:

Advocates Push for Greater Airline Accessibility – A lawsuit is seeking to force the nation’s airlines to make big changes in order to better accommodate travelers with disabilities. [Read More>](#)

State May Need Billions to Bring IDEA Services Up to Standards – It's estimated that one state will need to come up with some \$3.2 billion in the next three years to provide special education to students who were previously denied services. [Read More >](#)

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

Fifty years ago this month, [President Lyndon Johnson signed the Architectural Barriers Act \(ABA\) into law](#), ensuring access to the built environment for people with disabilities. The ABA requires that any buildings or facilities built or renovated with Federal funds, or those leased by Federal agencies, be accessible. The standards and guidelines developed under the ABA cover everything from national parks to post offices and many places in between, as well as health care, transportation systems, and information technology. [visit our Spotlight blog to explore research and resources on accessibility from the NIDILRR community and elsewhere!](#)

RRTC on VR Practices for Youth and Young Adults State of the Science Conference -- The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center \(RRTC\) on Vocational Rehabilitation \(VR\) Practices for Youth and Young Adults](#) will host a [State of the Science Track](#) (PDF) as part of the [Fall 2018 Conference of the National Council on Rehabilitation Education \(NCRE\)](#), October 25th-27th in Arlington, VA. The State of the Science sessions will focus on delivering quality VR services to youth, the use of evidence to improve VR practices, and the role of VR in inclusive higher education. Registration for the conference is open and there are related fees.

3.) Policy Information Exchange:

The American Association of People with Disabilities Opposes the Nomination of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the US Supreme Court --

The American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) opposes the nomination of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the United States Supreme Court based on his previous rulings as a DC Circuit Court Judge that have devalued the lives and liberty of people with disabilities. Judge Kavanaugh's rulings and statements on health care, self-determination, employment, and education threaten the rights of all Americans with disabilities. AAPD urges other organizations as well as individuals to take action by educating yourself and others about Judge Kavanaugh's record; and then contact your Senators to express your opposition and underscore the importance of health care and self-determination for all Americans with disabilities. For a thorough review of disability-related cases involving Judge Brett Kavanaugh, please refer to this report by the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

PIE Info: Slice of Pie, Volume 19, Issue 2, 2018 -- [Click here to read A Slice of Pie](#), which includes a [printable version](#); [state news and bills of interest](#); and [national news](#).

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

Ostuni, Amanda. "[New Study Identifies Hiring Bias Against Individuals with Disabilities](#)." *MINNPOST*.

Joseph, Gina, and Norb Franz. "[Disability Employment—Increasing but Still Lagging](#)." *The Macomb Daily*.

Davis, John. "[Employment Hurdles Prevent Those with Disabilities from Finding Stable Jobs](#)." Wisconsin Public Radio.

5.) Disabled-World.com:

[New Statistics from the US CDC Reveal in 4 US Adults Live with Disability](#) --

U.S. CDC figures show 1 in 4 US adults now live with a disability, with cognitive disability most common in younger adults and mobility disabilities most common for others.

6.) National Federation of the Blind:

Feel the Love -- We're [partnering with Kellogg's Rice Krispies Treats® to make sure blind children can feel the love](#) with a personalized Braille note in their lunchbox.

A Home Run for Beep Baseball -- Beep baseball uses sound to help blind people connect with the ball. Learn more in this [blog post about LaKeisha Holmes and her journey to the Beep Baseball World Series](#).

7.) American Association of People with Disabilities:

[Casey Introduces Bills to Increase Disability Employment and Create Office of Disability Policy](#) --

During the week of the 28th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), U.S. Senator Bob Casey (D-PA) introduced two bills to strengthen America's commitment to empowering the 56 million people with disabilities in the U.S.

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