

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: September 8, 2017

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 **September 8, 2017**, 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 2016 Annual Report and can be accessed by clicking on the following link. <http://www.parac.org/reports/> and a link to the PDF <http://www.parac.org/reports/2016AnnualReport.pdf>. You can also find the PaRC 2016 Annual Report on our webpage.

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 2017 –Please Mark your Calendars *** FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS**

PaRC Full Council meetings will be held in the **PA Ballroom on the 2nd Floor** of the Harrisburg Hilton (next to the gift shop) 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.

October 25 2017

PaRC Committee Conference Calls – Please Mark your Calendars

CAC / Executive Committee Conference Call

Next Call: To be Determined

CareerLink/WIOA

Next Call: TENTATIVELY - Monday, September 18, 2017 at 10:00 AM

Customer Satisfaction Committee Conference Call

Next Call: TENTATIVELY - Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 3:00 PM

Executive Committee Conference Call

Next Call: – Thursday, September 14, 2017 at 10:00 AM

Legislative and Public Awareness Conference Call

Next Call: To be Determined

OVR Policy and State Plan Committee Conference Call

Next Call: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 10:00 AM

Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call

Next Call: TENTATIVELY – Friday, October 13, 2017 at 10:00 AM

Transition & Education

Next Call: – To be Determined

1.) Hearing Loss Association of America-Pittsburgh Chapter:

PUBLIC MEETING Saturday September 16, 2017 10 am -- The Hearing Loss Association of America Pittsburgh Chapter September 16th public meeting will feature Amy Bowlen, freelance court reporter and broadcast captioner. She worked for VITAC, the world's largest captioning company, founded and remaining in the Pittsburgh area. The meeting held at DePaul School for Hearing and Speech 6202 Alder St., Shadyside, begins with refreshments at ten am. Free and open to the public. Captioning and hearing loop are provided. FMI: HLAP.news@gmail.com 412 767 9769 (use caller ID). <http://bit.ly/2uzjWwM> Why people find it difficult to detect their hearing loss. Stop focusing on denial and understand the auditory perception of a person with hearing loss. www.hhf.org/survey The survey for HLAA and Hearing Health Foundation takes less than five minutes and your answers are completely anonymous. If you would prefer mail to: Hearing Health Foundation 363 Seventh Avenue, 10th Floor New York, NY 10001.

2.) American Foundation for the Blind:

Transition to College: Program Activity Guide

Introducing the new Transition to College: Program Activity Guide for students with vision loss who are considering post-secondary education to achieve career goals.

[Explore the Transition to College: Program Activity Guide](#)

NEW Orientation and Mobility Techniques, 2nd Edition

AFB Press is excited to announce our first revision to this classic O&M textbook! Updates include a new, easy-to-read color format with photographs, updated information on street crossings at complex intersections, and a new chapter on orientation and mobility for people with low vision.

[Learn more about *Orientation and Mobility Techniques, Second Edition*](#)

3.) Association of People Supporting Employment First:

2017 Regional Institute – Organizational Change: From Workshops to Workplaces -- APSE's 2017 Regional Institute: *From Workshops to Workplaces-Achieving the Goal of Employment First*. November 2-3 2017, Atlanta GA (CESP Exam November 1st) -- [REGISTER NOW!](#)

4.) DisabledWorld.com:

[Pride in Disability and Self-identifying as Disabled Aids Overall Well-being](#) - Main Document -- "Developing disability pride seems to reduce protect self-esteem against the negative effects of stigma. It's a really valuable protection for people with disabilities."

5.) National Federation of the Blind:

August Episode of *The Nation's Blind* Podcast Available Now - Learn about the work the NFB does to create opportunities for blind students to learn in this month's episode of *The Nation's Blind*.

Being Prepared as Blind Kids go Back to School -- It's almost time for blind and sighted children across the country to head back to school. If you have a blind child, check out the latest issue of *Future Reflections*, our magazine for parents of blind children, for tips on managing your child's Individualized Education Plan.

6.) Policy Information Exchange:

PIE Info: New Money Management Resource -- Teachers Welcomed Back to School with New Resource to Teach Money Management to Students with Disabilities – (The following was an excerpt) --

Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation (PATF) today released a new resource to assist teachers in Pennsylvania and beyond to better provide financial education for students with disabilities. The [Cents and Sensibility Educator Companion Manual](#) was developed by a team of educators to

accompany PATF's award-winning *Cents and Sensibility: a guide to money management* with accommodations for classroom use.

7.) ABLÉ National Resource Center:

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Releases Guidance on ABLÉ Accounts – (The following is an excerpt) -- Today, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released guidance to State Medicaid Directors regarding the “Implications of the ABLÉ Act for State Medicaid Programs.” For initial highlights, and to read the CMS letter, [visit the ANRC website](#).

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

August nTIDE: Job Numbers Remain Upbeat for Americans with Disabilities -- The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics \(StatsRRTC\)](#) and the [RRTC on Individual-Level Characteristics Related to Employment Among Individuals with Disabilities \(IC-RRTC\)](#) reported continuing job gains for Americans with disabilities in the [August National Trends in Disability Employment \(nTIDE\) report](#).

Webinar: Employer Engagement - Meeting Needs, Adding Value --

The NIDILRR-funded [Diversity Partners Intervention: Moving the Disability Employment Needle Through Value Added Relationships Between Talent Acquisition Providers and the Business Community](#) will host a webinar, [Employer Engagement: Meeting Needs, Adding Value](#), September 25th, 2-3pm ET. Presenters will discuss the importance of enhancing the value of vocational rehabilitation (VR) services to employers in order to establish and sustain relationships. Registration is free and required.