

# **PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)**

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## **WEEKLY UPDATE: September 10, 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 **September 10, 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.

**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: Wednesday, September 12, 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 – 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, an Intellectual Disability 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.) Hiram G. Andrews Center:**

**Our 15th Annual Career & Transition Fair** is fast-approaching? National Disability Employment Awareness Month will be here before you know it and to commemorate, our Fair is being held **October 17th, 18th and 19th**. This event draws hundreds of individuals each year who are given the opportunity to tour our campus and visit HGAC's Exhibit Hall where they can

visit with staff, students and instructors as they showcase their support services and training programs. Please contact **Rebecca Marshall, Director of Institutional Development** at [remarshall@pa.gov](mailto:remarshall@pa.gov) or **814-254-0454** with questions. Robert Mecca, Executive Director of Life and Independence for Today, Center for Independent Living and Commonwealth Technical Institute graduate was our keynote speaker at our August 2018 graduation ceremony.

Visit our website at <https://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Disability-Services/hgac/cti/Pages/default.aspx> where you will find a registration form.

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

**Disability Groups Line Up Against Trump Supreme Court Pick** – As confirmation hearings get underway for President Donald Trump's pick for the U.S. Supreme Court, the nominee is facing unprecedented opposition from disability advocacy groups. [Read More>](#)

**Percentage of Children with ADHD Nearly Doubles** – The number of children diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder has reached more than 10 percent, a significant increase during the past 20 years, according to a new study. [Read More>](#)

**Millions in Disability Housing Assistance Headed to States** – People with disabilities in nearly every state will receive help accessing housing in the community thanks to an infusion of missions in federal dollars. [Read More >](#)

## **3.) EARN:**

**Don't miss our Twitter Chat with the Partnership on Employment & Accessible Technology (PEAT)! -- September 12, 2018 -- 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET** -- Join EARN and special guest PEAT for a Twitter chat exploring best practices for ensuring your organization's information and communication technology is accessible for everyone, including job applicants and employees with disabilities. "Being Tech Savvy: Accessible Information & Communication Technology" will offer tips and advice from accessibility experts, as well as ideas from EARN's Inclusion@Work employer policy framework on creating a disability-inclusive workplace. Use #EARNChat to join the conversation! <http://www.askearn.org/event/earn-peat-twitter-chat/>

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

**What's New at NARIC?** -- September has been designated National Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Awareness Month, with a [Senate resolution expressing support](#) for research to find new therapies and treatments for SCI and recognizing the dedication of the organizations, agencies, health professionals, and advocates who work to improve the quality of life for

people living with SCI. All this month, we'll be highlighting research, resources, and news from the NIDILRR community and elsewhere, [starting with some of the basics](#): what happens after SCI, how to select and maintain a wheelchair, and how to tap into the wisdom of the community to help adjust to life after SCI.

**Policy Twitter Chat: Expanding the Reach of Evidence-Based Supported Employment** -- The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Integrated Health Care & Self-Directed Recovery](#) will lead a policy Twitter chat, [Expanding the Reach of Evidence-Based Supported Employment](#), September 12th, 1-2pm ET. Participants are invited to join the discussion around evidence-based supported employment, including important advances, tools, and resources, and to share a vision for expanding the reach of supported employment in the future. Follow [@UICHealthRRTC](#) on Twitter and tag comments and questions with #SEworks. A Twitter account is required to participate in the discussion. This project is also supported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

**5.) American Association of People with Disabilities: 2019 AAPD Summer Internship Program** - At the beginning of the summer, interns participate in a 1-week orientation session to learn about AAPD and the disability rights movement, meet the other interns, and participate in a variety of engaging workshops and events. Any undergraduate student, law student, graduate student, or recent graduate from a US college or university who self-identifies as an individual with any type of disability is invited to apply. [Apply for the 2019 AAPD Summer Internship Program](#)

**6.) ABLE:**  
**New Webinar Open for Registration: ABLE Success in the Real World** -- The purpose of this webinar is to provide a space to hear three very diverse stories, experiences and lessons learned about ABLE accounts and their use directly from ABLE account owners. This webinar will take place on **September 27, 2018 from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. ET.** [REGISTER NOW](#)

**7.) Summer 2018 OVR Business Services Fast Facts: OVR and OA Pilot Summer College Internship for Students with Disabilities** -- In May, as part of PA's Employment First efforts, a pilot project to offer paid summer internships to 18 college students with disabilities at 15 state agencies/offices launched in Harrisburg. These paid 12-week summer internships are sponsored by PA OVR and the PA Office of Administration and offered to college students in good standing. Students are paid \$13.23/hour (\$13.56 after July 1) with the goal to provide relevant paid work experiences that match each student's area of study and maybe spark their interest in future employment in public service. So far, the

program is off to a great start with next year's goal to offer paid college internships at state office locations across Pennsylvania. For more information, please contact Dave Baum, OVR's Internship Specialist [dbaum@pa.gov](mailto:dbaum@pa.gov).

**8.) Hearing Loss Association American – Pittsburgh Chapter: PUBLIC MEETING Saturday Sept 15 2018** -- 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](mailto:HLAP.news@gmail.com) 412 767 9769 (use caller ID and leave msg).

October 18, 2018 Employment and Real Potential for People with Disabilities. 9:30 a.m. to noon. Event is free and open to the public. Early registration available now. Rodef Shalom Temple 4905 5th Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15213. <https://heinzhistorycenter.org/events/history-meets-disability-advocacy-oct-18#register>

On August 17, the Center for Disease Control came out with their 2018 report, "The Prevalence of Disabilities and Health Care Access by Disability and Status Type among Adults – United States, 2016." Hearing loss was added to the original five: cognition, independent living, mobility, self-care, and vision. The CDC said by adding the sixth disability (hearing loss) to the list the number of adults ages 18 and above who have a disability jumped from one in five to one in four.

As of June 2, 2018 movie theaters showing digital movies must provide a means for delivering closed captioning and audio description per rules issued under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by the Department of Justice (DOJ). For further information, visit [DOJ website](#) or contact its ADA hotline at 800.514.0301 (voice) or 800.514.3083 (TTY).

**9.) LEAD Center: LEAD Center Website Survey** -- The LEAD Center wants to learn more about how you use the resources on our website so that we can continue to improve what we offer. We ask that you take a very brief survey, which should only take 5 minutes or less to complete. Also, if you would be willing to speak to us over the phone to discuss the resources you use, how you are using them, and any additional needs you might have, please provide your name and email address at the beginning of the survey so that we may contact you. We promise to take no more than 5-10 minutes of your time. Thank you for your consideration and feedback! Take the LEAD Center website survey

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