

# **PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)**

Office Location / Mailing Address: 55 Utley Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Voice: (717) 975-2004 or (888) 250-5175 tty: (717) 737-0158 fax: (888) 524-9282

Email: [racucpa@parac.org](mailto:racucpa@parac.org) www. Parac.org

## **WEEKLY UPDATE: September 13, 2017**

\*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 13, 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 <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 2017 –Please Mark your Calendars \*\*\***

### **FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS**

PaRC Full Council meetings will be held in the **PA Ballroom on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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: Thursday, September 14, 2017 at 3:00 PM

### **OVR Policy and State Plan Committee Conference Call**

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

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

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

### **Transition & Education**

Next Call: – Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 2:00 PM

**1.) Mathematica’s Center for Studying Disability Policy:  
Disability Policy Webinar -- Thursday, September 28, 1:00–2:30 p.m.  
(ET) -- Innovating Services, Improving Outcomes: A VR Model for  
Serving SSDI Clients** -- As the main source of job services for people with disabilities, state vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies have the potential to help people receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) become more independent and economically successful. But recent research suggests that VR services for these individuals could be improved. Although SSDI beneficiaries who receive VR services see their earnings increase, only a small share earn enough to leave the disability rolls. To this end, the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts-Boston and Mathematica Policy Research received a grant from the Rehabilitation Services Administration to develop the Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)

Project Demonstration. This demonstration focused on improving employment outcomes for state VR clients who receive SSDI. On **Thursday, September 28, 1:00–2:30 p.m., ET**, Mathematica's [Center for Studying Disability Policy](#) will host a webinar featuring a panel of experts. The panel will discuss the experiences of VR agencies in Kentucky and Minnesota that implemented the SGA Project innovations, which were designed to help beneficiaries prepare for and find jobs with earnings high enough to leave the disability rolls. [Register for the webinar.](#)

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

**Rental Market Unkind to Those with Developmental Disabilities** – As people with developmental disabilities increasingly live in community-based settings, a first-of-its kind report is finding that they face a multitude of barriers in obtaining housing. [Read More>](#)

**States Get Guidance on ABLE Accounts, Medicaid Eligibility:** As a new kind of account allowing people with disabilities to save money becomes more available, federal officials say there are big implications for Medicaid. [Read More >](#)

**3.) National Council for Independent Living (Advocacy Monitor): Applications Open: AAPD 2018 Summer Internship Program -- Deadline to Apply: November 6, 2017 --** Since 2002, the [AAPD Summer Internship Program](#) has developed the next generation of leaders with disabilities and offered host employers access to a talented, diverse workforce. Each summer, AAPD places college students, graduate students, law students, and recent graduates with all types of disabilities in summer internships with Congressional offices, federal agencies, non-profits, and for-profit organizations in the Washington, DC area. Each intern is matched with a mentor who will assist them with their career goals. AAPD provides the interns with a living stipend, transportation to and from Washington, DC, and fully-accessible housing. [\[Read more...\]](#)

**House Judiciary Committee Approved H.R. 620 – Contact Your Representatives!** -- On Thursday, September 7, 2017, the [House Judiciary Committee held a markup](#) of H.R. 620, the ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017. The bill was voted out of committee along party lines and will now go to the full House for a vote. All of the amendments proposed by democrats were voted down, also along party lines. H.R. 620 is a terrible bill that would be a major step backwards for people with disabilities. The bill would weaken the protections afforded us under the Americans with Disabilities Act and make it even harder to enforce our rights under the ADA. We are continuing to work on this issue, and we will keep you updated. We cannot let this bill become law. **Please take action and contact your**

**Representatives today! Tell them that H.R. 620 is harmful to people with disabilities, so they must vote NO!**

**4.) National Disability Rights Network:**

**[NDRN Condemns Committee Passage of ADA Education and Reform Act](#)** -- Businesses that have not complied with the ADA within the last 27 years do not need a couple more months to come into compliance. **.read more.**

**[Letter Opposing ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017](#)** -- NDRN writes in opposition to the ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017 (H.R. 620)...**[read more](#)**

**5.) National Technical Assistance Center on Transition:**

**Ask the Experts: Student Engagement Strategies -- 09/21/2017 |**

**3:00 pm EST – Webinar -- [Register Now](#)** -- Dr. Reece Peterson, Professor Emeritus at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, will share resources and strategies to get student's engaged. His website, Student Engagement Project, focuses on two main areas: strategies to reduce exclusionary discipline and strategies to reduce school dropout. Get ideas, new resources, advice and strategies for individual student planning and school improvement planning!

**NTACT Evidence-Based Practices, Tools, and Resources to Support Academic Engagement for Secondary Students with Disabilities – 10-19-2017 / 3:00 PM EST – Webinar -- [Register Now](#)** -- This webinar will provide information about secondary academic evidence-based practices (EBPs) identified by NTACT staff, including tools and resources to support academic engagement. Participants will gain (a) knowledge of secondary academic EBPs, (b) specific strategies for implementation, and (c) tools and resources to support implementation and evaluation of secondary academic EBPs.

**6.) United Cerebral Palsy:**

The Center for Independent Living of Central Pa (CILCP) is excited to be hosting its first ever Blood Drive & Wellness Check! This event will take place at our Camp Hill office on September 25, 2017 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. We are proud to be partnering with fellow community organizations to bring you: Blood drive; Hearing screenings; Flu shots; Pneumonia shots; Blood pressure screenings; BMI screenings; Nutritional information. And last but not least, GET Smok'd food truck will be on site for lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is a great way to support your community and take care of you! Stop by and register for a door prize! Contact Sharon at the CILCP with questions. She can be reached at 717-731-1900 extension 224 or at

[sbehun@cilcp.org](mailto:sbehun@cilcp.org) – Please note that the Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank’s policy requires all blood donors to independently get on the donor bed. For example, a person using a wheelchair must be able to transfer from their chair to the donor bed on their own (without the assistance from an attendant).


### **7.) Jill Weaver – PaRC Support Staff:**

**Experience the Employment Connection (EEC) 2017 is ready to kick off.** **YES**, you CAN ATTEND even if you aren't part of a team! If you support transition-age students/youth with disabilities (primarily intellectual disability, autism, mental health, but also any other disability category), we'd love to have you join us! EEC 2017 training content will include topics that impact educators, vocational rehabilitation professionals, service coordinators, providers and the like. We will cover topics like: age of consent, legislation, pre-employment transition services, the OVR Process, and waiver/non-waiver services through the Office of Developmental Program and the County-Based Mental Health system. This training is approved for Continuing Education Credit for a variety of professionals and will count towards the 24 hour training requirement in the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP). Certificates of Attendance will be available to everyone who attends. More specific information attached and available onsite. Do you want to learn more about our systems and how they interact? Do you work for a funding source for programs that support transition/employment for individuals with disabilities? Can you offer insight into additional components that support successful transition? Do you want to meet interagency colleagues who might be able to support you in your professional role? If you can answer yes to any of these questions, EEC 2017 might be for you as an individual! Please visit [www.pa-eec.org](http://www.pa-eec.org) to register today!

### **8.) Cheryl Novak – OVR Staff:**

The U.S. Department of Labor announces the theme for [National Disability Employment Awareness Month 2017 – Inclusion Drives Innovation](#).

USBLN releases the 2017 Disability Equality Index, naming the Best Places to Work for Disability Inclusion. [See which OVR partners made the list!](#)

*The PaRC is looking for candidates to fill 2 openings for category Business/Industry/Labor and a veteran with a disability. Any interested candidates, please go to our website at [www.parac.org](http://www.parac.org) and fill out an application. Thank You. **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!** *