

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: October 13, 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 **October 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 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: Monday, December 18, 2017 at 10:00 AM

Customer Satisfaction Committee Conference Call

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

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 Conference Call

Next Call: Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 10:00 AM

Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call

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

Transition & Education

Next Call: – Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 2:00 PM

1.) Policy Information Exchange (PIE):

PIE Info: Training to Enhance Employment Opportunities –(The following is an excerpt) -- Wolf Administration Hosts Training to Enhance Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities -- *Meaningful employment changes lives by offering greater independence, dignity, and inclusion.* EEC 2017 will be held in Norristown, November 1; Philadelphia, November 2; Reading, November 8; and Allentown on November 9. More information on this event can be found at www.pa-eec.org.

HealthChoices Consumer Advisory Committee Meetings --
Pennsylvania Department of Human Services -- JOIN US:

HealthChoices Consumer Advisory Committee meetings are your chance to have your voice heard! Find a meeting near you: <http://ow.ly/heY330f0CgF>

PIE Info: Save the Date! PADES 2017 -- We are excited to announce that the Pennsylvania Disability Employment and Empowerment Summit (PADES) 2017 will be held on December 6 and 7 at the Valley Forge Event Center in King of Prussia, Pa. If you are a student or a person with a disability seeking employment, an individual who works with students or people with disabilities seeking employment, or an employer dedicated to inclusion, PADES is for you. Check out the [attached](#) save the date and visit our website at <http://pades-summit.org/> for more information and to “opt-in” to receive additional email notifications about this event—you’re not going to want to miss PADES 2017!

2.) Passle Helminski (PaRC Council Member):

Carnegie Mellon University developing smartphone system to help blind people cross the street -- <http://www.post-gazette.com/business/tech-news/2017/09/25/CMU-device-blind-people-cross-the-street-smartphone/stories/201709240098>

Link to NPR article about protesters with disabilities removed from Senate Hearings on Graham Cassidy Healthcare Bill.
<http://www.npr.org/2017/09/25/553024686/in-hearing-sens-graham-and-cassidy-defend-their-namesake-bill-to-repeal-obamacar>

In response to the failure of the Trump administration to publicize Affordable Care Act open enrollment, former Health and Human Services employee’s have set up this Get America Covered website.

(The following is an excerpt) -- Please share to help increase awareness of the timing and access to the open enrollment process. Open enrollment begins November 1. Get America Covered helps people get covered and stay covered. This included overseeing outreach and education efforts across every consumer touch point for HealthCare.gov.
<https://getamericacovered.org/>

Board Webinar: Harmonization between the ADA Standards and the IBC/ANSI A117.1 (November 2) -- (The following is an excerpt) The next webinar in the U.S. Access Board's free monthly series will take place **November 2 from 2:30 – 4:00 (ET)** and review differences between the ADA Standards and counterpart provisions in the International Building Code (IBC) and the accessibility standard it references, the ANSI A117.1 Standard. Visit www.accessibilityonline.org for more information or to

register for the webinar. Questions can be submitted in advance of the session or can be posed during the webinar.

3.) National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC):

Assistance Animal Survey – (The following is an excerpt) -- The NIDILRR-funded [Southwest ADA Regional Center](#) is conducting a [survey to learn more about the use of service animals and other assistance animals by people with disabilities in public settings](#). The survey is open to US residents 18 and over who use a service animal and parents of a child with a disability who uses a service animal. All personal data collected in the survey will be kept anonymous and confidential. For questions or additional information, contact Marisa Demaya at mdemaya@bcm.edu.

4.) DisabilityScoop.com:

Non-Profit Wants to Create 130K Jobs for People with Disabilities – (The following is an excerpt) – A new effort with the backing of some major names in the advertising industry is launching with an ambitious goal: create 130,000 jobs for people with developmental disabilities by 2020. The group is looking to make a dent in what they say is an estimated 8 million Americans with intellectual and developmental disabilities who lack integrated employment. Those with developmental disabilities who are interested in finding a job can sign up on the group's [website](#) to learn about available opportunities.

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

Important article about police interactions with deaf and hard of hearing people. Click on the weblink: <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/09/the-steadily-problematic-interactions-between-deaf-americans-and-police/541083/>

6.) National Federation of the Blind:

National Federation of the Blind Celebrates White Cane Awareness

Day -- White canes help blind people live the lives we want. The white cane does more than tell the sighted that we're blind; it is a tool for freedom and self-determination because it allows blind people to come and go on our own. Since we can travel safely and independently, we can contribute in the workplace, in our communities, and in society. Celebrate White Cane Awareness Day on October 15th y giving the gift of independence

7.) Association of People Supporting EmploymentFirst:

2017 Regional Institute - Save the date! -- November 2-3 2017 (CESP Exam November 1st) -- From Workshops to Workplaces – Achieving the Goal of Employment First Atlanta GA -- [Learn More](#)

APSE Webinars -- APSE offers webinars on a variety of topics throughout the year. [Learn More](#)

10.25.2017 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM -- [WISE WEBINAR: Achieving Financial Independence with Ticket to Work and an ABL Account](#)

9.) LEAD Center:

WEBINAR #1: Advancing Disability Employment in Your State: Resources and Information -- October 18, 2017, 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Are you interested in national and state-level disability employment statistics, policy and initiatives? Join this webinar to review the valuable comprehensive resources on the newly branded Data and Resources to Inspire a Vision of Employment (DRIVE) web platform! This website houses over 80 disability-employment related statistics, state disability employment policies by various categories, information about WIOA implementation from a disability perspective, capacity-building information and more. Learn how to compare state statistics and policies side-by-side, and how to find very specific and useful information. **The link to register for this webinar is:** <http://bit.ly/LEADoct18>

10.) National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR):

Performance Management for State VR Agencies Serving Transition-Aged Youth --

The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Vocational Rehabilitation \(VR\) Practices for Youth and Young Adults](#) has released a new research brief, [Performance Management for State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies Serving Transition-Aged Youth](#). VR agencies play an important role in delivering services to transition-aged youth with disabilities who are preparing to move into employment or postsecondary education. VR agencies collect, or can obtain, large amounts of data on client services and outcomes—data that can go largely underutilized. This brief illustrates how state vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies can use performance management tools and processes to leverage their data systems to improve programs supporting transition-aged youth.

October nTIDE Highlights Continuing Gains for Job Seekers 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 that economic recovery extended to 18 consecutive months for Americans with disabilities in the [October National Trends in Disability Employment \(nTIDE\) report](#). The report also examined research on incorporating vocational counseling and

resources into the medical rehabilitation process to improve stay-at-work/return-to-work outcomes for individuals with new or changing disabilities.

Webinar: The Development and Validation of an Assessment of Youth/Young Adult Voice in Agency-Level Advising and Decision Making -- The NIDILRR-funded [Research and Training Center for Pathways to Positive Futures: Building Self-Determination and Community Living and Participation \(Pathways RTC\)](#) will present a webinar, [The Development and Validation of an Assessment of Youth/Young Adult Voice in Agency-Level Advising and Decision Making](#), October 24th, 1-2pm ET. This webinar will describe the development and validation of the Youth/Young Adult Voice at the Agency Level (Y-VAL) assessment. Registration is free and required. This project is also supported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

11.) Hearing Loss Association of America Pittsburgh Chapter: PUBLIC MEETING Saturday October 21, 2017 10 am -- The public meeting will feature Sharon Hughes-Morris, Director of the Assistive Device Center and Outreach Services at the Center for Hearing & Deaf Services, Inc. (HDS). The ADC displays and sells assistive technology products for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing. Call 412 281 1375 or www.hds.org for more information on this and other services. 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. FMI: HLAP.news@gmail.com 412 767 9769 (use caller ID). Our Nov 18 speaker is Benjamin Boss, Au.D CCC clinical audiologist at UPMC Eye and Ear. Cochlear Implants are surgically implanted devices that support hearing & communication for people that want sound awareness & help with speech but have severe or profound loss of hearing that does not respond well to hearing aids. He will review types of implants and their accessories, who qualifies for implants, the cost, and the process of recovery & rehab.

The PaRC is looking for candidates to fill 1 opening for category Business/Industry and a veteran with a disability. Any interested candidates, please go to our website at www.parac.org and fill out an application. Thank You.

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