

# **PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)**

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## **WEEKLY UPDATE: October 23, 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 **October 23, 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**

**March 6, 2019**

**May 1, 2019**

**August 21, 2019**

**October 23, 2019**

**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, November 6, 2018 at 10:00 AM

**Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call**

Next Call: 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:** The PaRC is looking for candidates to fill the following openings: A veteran with a disability, a Mental Health representative, a Business or Industry Representative, 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.

**1.) Hearing Loss Association of America – Pittsburgh Chapter:**

**Items of Interest:** October 30, 2018 1 – 2 p.m. Canine Partners for Life: How Service Dogs Unleash Abilities. The University Club, Ballroom A (first floor) 123 University Place Pittsburgh, PA 15260 The Dick Thornburgh Forum for Law & Public Policy using this link. This lecture is free and open-to-the-public. Refreshments will be served. Parking is suggested at Soldiers and Sailors auditorium garage. 412 624 1514 [kac15@pitt.edu](mailto:kac15@pitt.edu)

[NCRA.COM](http://NCRA.COM): A new National Court Reporter Association committee, the Captioning Regulatory Policy Committee, has recently been formed. If you see subpar captions, automated or otherwise, notify the station and complain to the FCC. [NCRA offers a set of instructions](#); be sure to include the station, program, time, and specific examples.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration today allowed marketing of a new device, the Bose Hearing Aid, intended to amplify sounds for individuals 18 years or older with perceived mild to moderate hearing impairment (hearing loss). This is the first hearing aid authorized for marketing by the FDA that enables users to fit, program and control the hearing aid on their own, without assistance from a health care provider.  
<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm622692.htm>

## **2.) American Association of People with Disabilities:**

[The American Association of People with Disabilities Opposes the “Public Charge” Rule](#) - The American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) joins [over 1,500 disability, immigrant, and civil rights organizations](#) in strongly opposing the [“Public Charge” rule](#) proposed by the Department of Homeland Security. The proposed rule is blatantly discriminatory and would cause great harm to people with disabilities and their families. Not only could it prevent people with disabilities from entering the United States or achieving permanent resident status, it would also discourage people with disabilities and their families who are already in the U.S. from seeking these critical public services for fear of jeopardizing their immigration status. Make your voice heard through the public comment period between now and December 10, 2018. Visit [Protecting Immigrant Families](#) for more information on the “Public Charge” rule, as well as instructions on how to submit a public comment against this dangerous and discriminatory proposal.

## **3.) PA State Wide Independent Living Council:**

We want to hear about life experiences of Pennsylvanians with disabilities for the State Plan for Independent Living! The survey takes just a few minutes and is open now until 12/31/2018. **Take the Survey Now.**

## **4.) Cindy Mundis (OVR Bureau Manager):**

As part of the PAsmart initiative, the Wolf administration launched a new website, [pa.gov/smart](http://pa.gov/smart), earlier this year that is dedicated to helping people get information about pursuing an education and career in Pennsylvania at any stage of life. **What is PAsmart?** PAsmart is a strategic and new approach to education and workforce development to help Pennsylvanians develop the skills and abilities they need to obtain a quality job, help businesses recruit skilled workers, and foster economic growth.

### **5.) Center for Independent Living of Central PA**

**Take Control of Your Attendant Care Services!** Join us for a discussion about attendant care services and take home “tools” to add to your toolbox. No cost to attend. Bring lunch, light refreshments provided. This event is fragrance-free. Open to anyone who is interested. **When:** Tuesday, 11/06/18 at 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM at the Center for Independent Living of Central PA, 207 House Avenue, Suite 107, Camp Hill, PA 17011. The workshop will be in the CILCP conference Room. Deadline to RSVP and/or request an accommodation is October 30, 2018. Contact Dawn Marron at 717-731-1900 extension 253 or at [dmarron@cilcp.org](mailto:dmarron@cilcp.org). [For accessible and PDF version click here!](#)

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

**Wheelchair Breakdown and Maintenance Survey --** The NIDILRR-funded [University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury](#) seeks [individuals with spinal cord injury to utilize an app, KeepMvn, to track the rate of wheelchair breakdowns as well as adverse consequences which may occur](#). Participants must have a non-progressive spinal cord injury that occurred at least one year ago, use a manual or powered wheelchair as a primary means of mobility for 40 or more hours per week, and have access to a smartphone or tablet with Internet access. Qualified participants will use the app to record each breakdown or repair, and answer questionnaires on a quarterly basis about their wheelchair use. The first 200 participants will be compensated for each quarterly update. Additional study and compensation information is available from the study website.

**ODEP Resources on Mentoring Youth with Disabilities --** The [Office of Disability Employment Policy \(ODEP\) at the Department of Labor](#) offers two factsheets on mentoring youth and young adults with disabilities. [Career-Focused Mentoring for Youth; The What, Why, and How](#) introduces mentoring during the transition from school to work, with guideposts explaining how mentoring activities can be used to support career preparation by assisting young people in meeting their transition-related and developmental needs. [Cultivating Leadership: Mentoring Youth with Disabilities](#) details the benefits of mentorship for young people, their mentors, and their employers, and outlines the features of a successful mentor relationship.

**7.) Americans with Disabilities Act National Network:**  
[ADA Live! Airport Accessibility and the ADA](#) -- November 7, 2018

[Best Practices in Inclusive Employment](#) -- November 13, 2018

**8.) LEAD Center:**

[Promoting Competitive Integrated Employment: What You Can Do](#) --  
*October 24, 2018 3:00 pm EDT*

[New LEAD Center Self-Paced Trainings Now Available!](#)

**9.) National Council on Disabilities:**

[National Disability Employment Policy, From the New Deal to the Real Deal: Joining the Industries of the Future](#)

**10.) DisabilityScoop.com:**

**Report: School Absences More Frequent for Kids with Disabilities –**  
Children with developmental disabilities are far more likely to be missing a lot of school, according to a new federal report, with those who have certain conditions at especially high risk. [Read More >](#)

**11.) ABLE National Resource Center:**

**Become an ABLE Advisor!** -- The ABLE National Resource Center (ANRC), seeks to identify nine (9) ABLE account owners to participate as an Advisor Group to the Center in 2019. This will be ABLE NRC's second cohort of ABLE Advisors. You can learn more about the first cohort of 2018 ABLE Advisors at <http://ablenrc.org/meet-our-2018-able-advisors>. **APPLICATION:** Send us a picture of you and your family and tell us about your circle of support. Tell us why you opened an ABLE account and what you hope to accomplish. Tell us which state ABLE program you signed up for, and how long have you been an account owner. Tell us why you would be an excellent advisor to the ABLE NRC? (What are your strengths? What are your past and current use of ABLE NRC resources?). What else should we know about your background and experiences that would support your selection? **DUE DATE: OCTOBER 31, 2018. Send applications to [mkennedy@ablenrc.org](mailto:mkennedy@ablenrc.org).**  
**Subject Line:** 2019 ABLE Advisor Application, or postal mail to Miranda Kennedy, M.P.P., Director, ABLE NRC, National Disability Institute, 1667 K St, NW Suite 480, Washington, DC 20006

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