

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: November 13, 2018

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 **November 13, 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 and click on the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) link to find dates, locations, times, etc. for information on the nearest CAC.

***** PaRC Calendar Year 2019 –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.

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: Monday, January 14, 2019 at 10:00 AM

Executive Committee Conference Call

Next Call: – Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at 2:00 PM

Legislative and Public Awareness Conference Call

Next Call: Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 10:00 AM

OVR Policy and State Plan Committee / Customer Satisfaction Conference Call

Next Call: Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 10:00 AM

Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call

Next Call: To be Determined

Transition & Education

Next Call: – To be Determined

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) and fill out an application.

1.) Policy Information Exchange:

PIE Job: PCIL Position for Executive Director

The Pennsylvania Council on Independent Living (PCIL) seeks a full-time Executive Director to work out of the Harrisburg area. Competitive Salary and Benefits. EOE. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Please refer to detailed [Job Description](#) for requirements and job duties. To apply, please submit the following: Cover Letter; Resume; Three professional references; A written statement explaining the reasons you want to lead PCIL and why you will be effective in the role. Application packet must be sent via email by December 5, 2018 to: Amy C. Beck, President PCIL . amybeck@lvcil.org Or apply on Indeed by clicking this link: <https://www.indeed.com/job/executive-director-pa-council-independent-living-58d82ce03f813d02>

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

Pathways Transition Training Video Briefs -- The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center for Pathways to Positive Futures: Building Self-Determination and Community Living and Participation \(Pathways RTC\)](#) has created five new online [Pathways Transition Training Video Briefs](#). These five-minute video briefs focus on skills for working with youth and young adults with mental health conditions and their families. Topics include trauma-informed care, youth cultures, engaging youth in treatment, promoting family support, and shared decision making. Registration is free and an email address is required to complete the training.

October nTIDE: Key Employment Indicators Continue to Rise -- The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics \(Stats RRTC\)](#) has published the [October National Trends in Disability Employment \(nTIDE\) Report](#), finding that key economic indicators for Americans with disabilities continued to rise, as observed in the previous two months. This month's nTIDE also examined new approaches in vocational rehabilitation research to support veterans with disabilities as they bring their talent and experience to the workforce. This report and other news from the field was discussed in the November 2nd [Lunch & Learn webinar](#), archived on the project's website.

Webinar: Inclusive Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities -- The NIDILRR-funded [Mid-Atlantic ADA Regional Center](#) will host a webinar, [Inclusive Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities](#), November 15th, 2-3:30pm ET. Presenters will discuss what steps individuals can take to be prepared, such as establishing a support network and what to keep in an emergency supply kit. Presenters will also review the basic principles found in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for inclusive emergency preparedness and will discuss application of the ADA to access and functional needs planning in the areas of evacuation, transportation, communication, and emergency sheltering. Presenters will

also provide helpful tips, checklists, toolkits, and various other resources. Registration is free and required.

NCD: Has the Promise Been Kept? Federal Enforcement of Disability Rights Laws -- The [National Council on Disability \(NCD\)](#) released its annual progress report on national disability policy, [Has the Promise Been Kept? Federal Enforcement of Disability Rights Laws](#). The report revisits the 2000 NCD report Promises to Keep: A Decade of Federal Enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), assessing progress made by several Federal agencies to protect and advance the employment of people with disabilities. The report examines and offers recommendations on implementation and enforcement activities related to the ADA and other Federal disability rights laws and programs.

3.) EARN:

The Disability Inclusion Advantage - Companies that improve disability inclusion over time outperform those who don't. That's the long and short of a groundbreaking research study unveiled last month by Accenture in partnership with Disability:IN - an EARN partner - and the American Association of People with Disabilities. [Read more.](#)

Exchanging Experience and Ideas - In partnership with DC Metro Business Leadership Network, the Global Social Enterprise Initiative at Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business hosted a conference on October 29 focused on best practices for disability inclusion. [Read more.](#)

#LookCloser - A new innovative campaign sponsored by the National Organization on Disability in collaboration with several leading employers encourages businesses to "Look Closer" at the attributes of people with disabilities when hiring new talent. [Read more.](#)

Hershey - America's iconic chocolate maker has found disability inclusion to be a sweet strategy for recruiting and retaining talent. [Read more](#)

4.) DisabilityScoop.com:

Voc Rehab Doubling Down on Transition-Age Youths - Vocational rehabilitation agencies say they're serving more students with disabilities thanks to a new federal mandate, but they're still falling short of fully meeting their obligations. [Read More >](#)

Court Upholds \$33 Million Penalty for Underfunding Special Ed - One state will likely have to give up \$33.3 million in funds after a U.S. appeals court found that it violated a federal rule requiring a minimum amount of spending on special education. [Read More >](#)

5.) ABLE National Resource:

New Webinar Open for Registration: Spotlight on the ABLEnow and ABLEAmerica Programs -- We are excited to announce that we will be hosting a "spotlight" webinar this month featuring the national ABLEnow and ABLEAmerica programs, both of which originate out of Virginia. The webinar will be held on **Thursday, November 29th, from 2-3pm Eastern Time**. Topics will include: Brief summary of the ABLE Act; ABLEnow, the largest independent ABLE program in the country; ABLEAmerica, the first ABLE program available through financial advisors. [REGISTER NOW](#)

Blog: Top Three Questions for November -- In this month's top three questions blog, find out the answers to the following questions: How do I decide which state ABLE program is right for me? Can Supplemental Security Income (SSI) be deposited into an ABLE account? What happens to funds in an ABLE account when the account owner dies? [Learn the answers to the top three questions for November.](#)

ABLE Case Summary Series: ABLE Accounts Compared to Special Needs Trusts - The ABLE National Resource Center (ANRC) is pleased to bring you a series of "ABLE Case Summaries" that articulate and illustrate ways to benefit from an ABLE account that complement continued eligibility for selected public benefits and programs and/or use of special needs trusts. This month, we continue the series with [ABLE Accounts Compared to Special Needs Trusts](#). [Learn more about the ABLE Case Summary Series.](#)

6.) Hearing Loss Association – Pittsburgh Chapter:
HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA PITTSBURGH CHAPTER PUBLIC MEETING Saturday Nov 17 2018 -- The Hearing Loss Association of America Pittsburgh Chapter November 17 public meeting will feature Donna Ogradowski speaking about Dogs for Better Lives 1-800-990-3647 or (info@dogsforbetterlives.org). The organization provides trained dogs for children with autism, people who are deaf or have a hearing or visual loss, or post-traumatic stress. The meeting held at DePaul School for Hearing and Speech 6202 Alder St., Shadyside, begins with refreshments at 10:00 AM. Free and open to the public. Captioning and hearing loop are provided. FMI: HLAP.news@gmail.com. This is our last meeting before winter break, our next meeting being in March of 2019. We may have a social in December for which you can receive information by sending an email to HLAP.news@gmail.com Safely enjoy your holidays.

7.) National Federation of the Blind:
Santa Letters – Every December, the [National Federation of the Blind helps Santa send letters in Braille](#) along with a tactile coloring sheet and a print letter for parents.

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