

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE: November 19, 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 19, 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: – Thursday, January 24, 2019 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, and an Intellectual Disability Representative. If interested please go to our website (www.parac.org) and fill out an application.

1.) DisabilityScoop.com:

Lawsuits Targeting Websites Over ADA Violations on the Rise – The Trump administration’s decision to stop drafting rules for website ADA

compliance is widely seen as opening the floodgates to legal action. [Read More >](#)

500,000 Teens with ASD are Headed to Adulthood. Where will they Work? The number of adults with autism is rapidly rising, yet advocates say nearly half of 25-year-olds with the disorder have never held a paying job. [Read More >](#)

Settlement Reached in 25-Year-Old Special Education Case – A proposed settlement in a class-action suit spanning over two decades is expected to improve educational support and academic achievement for more than 250,000 students with disabilities. [Read More >](#)

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

Webinar: What Does Choice Really Mean When We Talk About Employment - The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Advancing Employment for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities \(ThinkWork\)](#) will host a webinar, [What Does Choice Really Mean When We Talk About Employment?](#), November 27th, 3-4pm ET. Presenters will discuss the challenges, risks, and rewards of a life of work. Presenters will explore ideas and challenges related to risk and empowerment that can increase expectations and vision for employment for people with disabilities. Registration is free and required.

Job Retention and Career Advancement Survey - The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Employment for Individuals with Blindness or Other Visual Impairments](#) is conducting a [survey of individuals who are blind or who have other visual impairments about their experiences with job retention and career advancement](#). The survey is open to any individuals who are employed or may have been employed in the past. Participants who complete the survey may enter to win a drawing for a \$100 gift card.

3.) Lee Ann Stewart (OVR Staff):

FREE Leadership Development Training Series - 8 Weekend Events – Location – Drury Plaza Hotel Pittsburgh, 745 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. **Participants must commit to attend ALL 8 two-day (Friday and Saturday) training sessions. Specific dates and location to be announced.** Trainings are for: adults with intellectual disabilities and/or on the autism spectrum; parents of school age children with intellectual disabilities and/or on the autism spectrum. Develop leadership skills, learn best practices and learn to educate and partner with policy makers on a local, state and federal level. Dates: January 25-26; March 1-2; March 29-30; April 12-13; May 3-4; May 31-June 1; June 21-22; September 13-14.

DETAILS AND APPLICATION. Applications must arrive by **December 14, 2018**. (All applicants will be notified by 12/20/18). For further information, email IOD@temple.edu

4.) Mathematica Research Policy:

["When Every Dollar Counts: Comparing Reported Earnings of Social Security Disability Program Beneficiaries in Survey and Administrative Records."](#)
Social Security Bulletin.

5.) Disabled-World.com:

KD Smart Chair Sponsors UC of San Diego to Develop an Autonomous Wheelchair - The end product of the Smart Wheelchair project will be an open source, low cost, assistive powered KD Smart Chair wheelchair with and autonomous navigation technologies.

**6.) National Council for Independent Living (Advocacy Monitor):
GAO Requests Information from NCIL on Medicaid Eligibility**

In 2011, the National Council on Independent Living joined a coalition of other groups in commenting on Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services rules related to implementing eligibility determinations under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). The comments related to concerns that people with disabilities might lose access to home and community-based services, Medicaid Buy-In programs, and other long-term services and supports if they were determined eligible for a "new adult" group created as part of Medicaid expansion. [\[Read more...\]](#)

Have You Had Problems with Medicare's 'In Home Rule'?

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) 'In Home Rule' restricts Medicare coverage of mobility assistive equipment to only those needed for assistance with Mobility-Related Activities of Daily Living (MRADLs) in the home. Medicare does not consider someone's needs outside of the home when determining which assistive device to cover. NCIL has been asked to provide examples of people who have experienced barriers because of the In Home Rule. If you have had difficulty getting the appropriate wheelchair or assistive device, been denied a needed device altogether, or if you are not able to use your wheelchair or other assistive device in the settings you need because of this rule, we want to hear from you! Please contact lindsay@ncil.org and share how the In Home Rule has impacted your life.

7.) National Federation of the Blind:

JAWS and ZoomText Annual Home Licensing: A Win for Consumers -

Can a new pricing model save money and keep our access technology software up-to-date? Learn more in this [blog post from NFB's tech director, Rachel Olivero](#).

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