

# **PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)**

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## **WEEKLY UPDATE: December 18, 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 **December 18, 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 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: – To be Determined

### **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

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 Dream Partnership](#)

[PaRC Herr Foods Inc.](#)

[PaRC Aha Moment](#)

[PaRC Keystone Blind Association](#)

[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](http://www.parac.org)) and fill out an application.

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

**Brief Counseling May Help People with Muscle and Joint Conditions Stay Employed** - Managing arthritis and other joint conditions can be a challenge in the workplace. This week's [Research In Focus](#) looks at the impact of a brief counseling program to help people with these conditions stay active on the job.

## **November nTIDE: Modest Increases Indicate Ongoing Job Growth -**

The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Employment Policy and Measurement \(EPM-RRTC\)](#) and the [RRTC on Disability Statistics and Demographics \(Stats RRTC\)](#) have published the [November National Trends in Disability Employment \(nTIDE\) Report](#), finding modest gains in employment indicators for Americans with disabilities in November. These gains continue an upward trend observed for several months. This report and other news from the field were discussed in the December 7th Lunch & Learn webinar, archived on the nTIDE website.

## **2.) Americans with Disabilities Act National Network:**

[Accommodating Students with Disabilities Enrolled in Medical and Health Science Programs](#) - January 15, 2019

[Disability Rights Laws in Public Primary and Secondary Education: How Do They Relate?](#) --

## **3.) EARN:**

**Event - Deadline: Disability Employment Tracker** - "Spread the Word: Communicating Your Organization's Commitment to Disability Inclusion" -- December 20, 2018 - 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. ET. Don't miss our upcoming webinar about strategies organizations can use to effectively communicate a commitment to disability inclusion. Hear from featured guests from JBG Smith and the Galt Foundation about best practices for getting the message out to the public, as well as how internal communications efforts can help generate support for disability inclusion within your organization. Register today to reserve your spot! Register Now

## **4.) Lead Center:**

[Five Ways You Can Help Expand Opportunities for Competitive Integrated Employment in Your Community](#)

[Inclusive Career Pathways Desktop Guide: Information and Resources to Support Inclusive Programs and Services](#)

**5.) National Council for Independent Living – Advocacy Monitor: Free Webinar: Findings from the 2018 National Survey of I&R/A Agencies - Wednesday, January 9 from 3:00-4:30 p.m. Eastern -**

NASUAD, in partnership with the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL), surveyed aging and disability Information & Referral/Assistance (I&R/A) agencies nationwide in 2018 to learn about important trends and developments in the field. The survey looked at a variety of key topics, including referrals and service needs; partnerships and system building; technology; quality, training and certification; financing and sustainability; and changing inquirer demographics. Join us for this webinar to hear about the themes and findings that emerged from the survey. Real-time captioning will be provided for this webinar. [Register online](#)

## **6.) Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers' Association:**

**Mental Health Association in PA is Hiring** - Position: External Advocate – Part time position (between 25 and 30 hours per week) -- External Advocate is an independent advocate who provides assistance and support to individuals receiving services at a state-operated mental health facility. This part time position is located at Danville State Hospital, Danville, PA. Position entails the following responsibilities: Ensure the fundamental rights of the individual receiving services in the state-operated facility. Help individuals and their families with questions, concerns, and complaints regarding hospital care and treatment. Help resolve concerns and complaints. Work with individuals and others, including local/regional mental health offices and county providers, to facilitate community living. Refer individuals to an attorney or agency that provides legal advocacy. Assist with questions about benefit programs and concerns regarding employment. Provide technical assistance and education regarding rights to individuals, their families and the hospital staff. Qualifications: Ideal candidate will have advocacy experience, knowledge about the PA mental health system, reporting, organizational and data entry skills. A college degree or a combination of education and experience is required. We are an affirmative action employer—individuals of color, women, and individuals with lived experience are encouraged to apply. Apply: Please email resume and salary requirements by January 15, 2019 to [externaladvocacy@mhapa.org](mailto:externaladvocacy@mhapa.org) ; Subject Line: external advocate search

## **7.) Policy Information Exchange:**

**PIE Info: January 4, 2019 MLTSS Subcommittee Meeting** -- January 4, 2019 Managed Long-Term Services and Supports Subcommittee Meeting – Accommodation Request -- This email is to notify you that the next Managed Long-Term Services and Supports (MLTSS) Subcommittee meeting will be held on **Friday, January 4, 2019**, in the Honor's Suite at 333 Market Street Tower in Harrisburg, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you plan to attend in person and need an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter and/or another accommodation, please send an email to Marilyn Yocum at [myocum@pa.gov](mailto:myocum@pa.gov) and Brandon Bennett at [brandobenn@pa.gov](mailto:brandobenn@pa.gov) by no later than December 21, 2018, so an ASL interpreter or other accommodation can be scheduled.

## **8.) DisabilityScoop.com:**

### **IRS Reminding People with Disabilities About New ABLE Account**

**Rules** – With a change taking effect this year, individuals with disabilities can save more money than ever before without losing out on Social Security, Medicaid and other government benefits. [Read More>](#)

### **Judge Grapples with How to Handle Defendant with Intellectual Disability**

– The case of a man with intellectual disability who is accused of tax fraud is highlighting the challenges the federal justice system faces in dealing with such defendants. [Read More>](#)

## **9.) Linda Williams (PaRC Support Staff):**

Please join us for the next Community HealthChoices (CHC) Third Thursday Webinar on December 20, 2018 at 1:30 PM. Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL) Deputy Secretary Kevin Hancock will be providing updates on operations in the Southwest, upcoming implementation of CHC in the Southeast, updated enrollment statistics along with minority participant outreach efforts. Welfare Program Executive Amy High will present on changes to the system of nursing home transition (NHT) under CHC. To register for the webinar, please click on the following link <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4954787208902403>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. If you require captioning services, please click on the following link: <https://archivereporting.1capapp.com> and use the log in information: Username: OLL Password: OLL. Reminder: All CHC related information can be found at [www.dhs.pa.gov/citizens/communityhealthchoices](http://www.dhs.pa.gov/citizens/communityhealthchoices). Comments can be submitted electronically to [RA-PWCHC@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWCHC@pa.gov). If you have any questions, please contact the OLTL Bureau of Policy and Regulatory Management at 717-857-3280.

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