

PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION COUNCIL (PaRC)

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WEEKLY UPDATE March 19, 2021

We are social and want to connect with you! That's right, please visit the PaRC Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Pennsylvania-Rehabilitation-Council-1587882184858917> and like us! This is where you can find the latest happenings with the PaRC events, meetings, latest news, and info about OVR, legislation, and information regarding employment for people with disabilities. See you there!

*If you no longer wish to receive this update, please contact Katie Haley at mary.haley@parehabilitationcouncil.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 **March 19, 2021**, 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 2020 Annual Report can be found on our webpage or by clicking on the following link

<http://parac.org/reports/2020AnnualReport.pdf>

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, agendas and minutes, etc. for information on your CAC.

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.

***** 2021 Full Council Meeting Dates and OVR Quarterly State Board Meeting Dates *****

PaRC	OVR State Board
<p>Wednesday, February 17, 2021 Harrisburg</p>  <p>2-17-2021 PaRC Full Council Meeting.ics</p>	<p>Thursday, March 11, 2021 Virtual</p>  <p>3-11-2021 OVR State Board Meeting.ics</p>
<p>Wednesday, May 12, 2021 Harrisburg</p>  <p>5-12-2021 PaRC Full Council Meeting.ics</p>	<p>Thursday, June 3, 2021 Virtual</p>  <p>6-3-2021 OVR State Board Meeting.ics</p>
<p>Wednesday, August 4, 2021</p>	<p>Thursday, September 16, 2021</p>

<p>Harrisburg</p>  8-4-2021 PaRC Full Council Meeting.ics	<p>Pittsburgh</p>  9-16-2021 OVR State Board Meeting.ics
<p>Tuesday, November 16, 2021 Harrisburg</p>  11-17-2021 PaRC Full Council Meeting.ics	<p>Thursday, December 2, 2021 Harrisburg</p>  12-2-2021 OVR State Board Meeting.ics

http://parac.org/council_mtgs.html

*****PaRC Member Committee Conference Calls – Please
Mark your Calendars*****

CareerLink/WIOA Conference Call

Next Call: To be Determined

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**

Friday April 30, 2021 at 9:30 AM

Social Media/Outreach Committee Conference Call

Thursday April 15, 2021 at 9:30 AM

Transition & Education Conference Call

Thursday April 29, 2021 at 2:30 PM

The PaRC Social Media and Outreach Committee in partnership with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) produced 5 videos which are OVR individual and business success stories. 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 5 videos. Please feel free to share.

[PaRC Aha Moment](#)

[PaRC Dream Partnership](#)

[PaRC Herr Foods Inc.](#)

[PaRC Keystone Blind Association](#)

[PaRC Assistive Technology](#)

PaRC COUNCIL OPENINGS: The PaRC is looking for candidates to fill new openings on the council. If interested, please go to our website (www.parac.org) and fill out an application.

1.) Feds Propose Changes To Disability Employment Rules

**by Michelle Diamant
March 15, 2021**

The Biden administration is reconsidering what should qualify as competitive integrated employment for people with disabilities.

The U.S. Department of Education said it plans to update a 2017 frequently asked questions document that serves as guidance for the vocational rehabilitation program and the agency is soliciting public comment on its proposal. To read more, go to:

<https://www.disabilitycoop.com/2021/03/15/feds-propose-changes-to-disability-employment-rules/29240/>

2.) Forwarded from Linda Williams

HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

PUBLIC ZOOM MEETING Saturday MARCH 20, 2021

The Hearing Loss Association of America Pittsburgh Chapter Mar 20 public meeting will be by zoom, begins at ten am, and ends at noon. The March 20 meeting will be a discussion led by Brandon Harper. The open discussion will give each of us time to share our stress and joys and experiences with hearing loss. Maybe some have already received the vaccine and can tell us about it. You are invited to send questions to hlap.news@gmail.com.

Captioning will be provided for all parts of the meeting. During the meeting, please leave your microphone on mute unless called up. Questions should be directed to the chat box.

Here is the address to join the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82823759371?pwd=cjMyUFdYWVNNPMDRaYnF0ZDk5ZF1Zz09> Meeting ID: 828 2375 9371
Passcode: 227556 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82823759371?pwd=cjMyUFdYWVNNPMDRaYnF0ZDk5ZF1Zz09>

You can go to innocaptions (<https://chchearing.org/blog/zoom-captioning-innocaption-app/>) or Hamilton captel for instructions on using zoom captioning separate from our provision.

3.) Forwarded from Linda Williams



Pennsylvania Advocates and Resources
for Autism and Intellectual Disabilities

Urgent: Send Governor Wolf an Email to Advocate for Funding!

On Friday, PAR will be meeting with Governor Wolf's Senior staff, as well as members of the Department of Human Services about our budget request for \$540 million dollars in federal relief. PAR needs your help this week to get the message to the Governor that providers need immediate relief to help with COVID related expenses, and our growing workforce crisis! We are asking everyone to [send as many emails to Governor Wolf this week as possible!](#) Simply click the link below and enter in your contact information to send an email directly to Governor Wolf to advocate for critical funding for ID/A services. After you send an email, please share it with others!

[Click Here to Send an Email Directly to Governor Wolf!](#)

4.) Disability Rights Film 'Crip Camp' Nominated For Oscar

by Shaun Heasley
March 16, 2021

A documentary about the emergence of the disability rights movement produced by former President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama is up for an Academy Award.

“Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution” was nominated Monday for best documentary feature.

The film follows a group of teenagers with disabilities who came together in the early 1970s at a summer camp near Woodstock, N.Y. who ultimately helped bring about civil rights protections for themselves and others like them. To continue reading, go to:

<https://www.disabilityscoop.com/2021/03/16/disability-rights-film-crip-camp-nominated-for-oscar/29241/>

5.) CNY Paralympic bound skier born with Cerebral Palsy redefines attitudes about disabilities

by CNY Central

Thursday, March 18th, 2021

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — A Central New York skier born with Cerebral Palsy is redefining attitudes about disabilities as he trains for the 2022 Winter Paralympics.

"Going down the mountain it's a rush," said Logan Knowles. Skiing is freedom.

Knowles said, "With my disability, I can't keep up with everybody else, but out on the mountain I can fly by other people." To read more, go to:

<https://cnycentral.com/news/neighborhood/cny-2022-winter-paralympic-bound-skier-logan-knowles-born-with-cerebral-palsy-redefines-attitudes-about-disabilities-greek-peak-mountain-gold>

6.) Travelers need to stop faking disabilities. It's hurting people who DO have them
Christopher Elliott Special to USA TODAY
March 19, 2021

On a flight from Charlotte to Denver, Stephen Caron met a man he thinks was faking a disability.

"He boarded first because he was in a wheelchair," recalls Caron, a retired customer sales manager from Jacksonville, Florida. "When we landed he got up and walked off the plane."

The man then made a beeline to the baggage claim in Denver, a lengthy walk from the gate, unassisted. Caron says he's seen it happen many times.

Airline crew members have a name for that kind of fake disability on a plane. It's called a "miracle" flight. To continue reading, go to:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/advice/2021/03/19/wheelchair-service-animal-fakers-travelers-stop-pretending-disabilities/4749620001/>

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