

FOR MORE INFORMATION



To learn more about the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) to the Reading District Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

(OVR), which serves Berks and Schuylkill counties, to speak with a committee member, or to receive this brochure in an alternate format, please contact:

▶ Karla Akemann, Co-chair
(610) 401-7513
karla.akemann@gmail.com

or

▶ Susan Kennedy, Co-chair
(570) 455-9800, extension 23
skennedy@anthracitecil.org

The Reading District OVR can be reached at:

3602 Kutztown Road, Suite 200
Reading, PA 19605

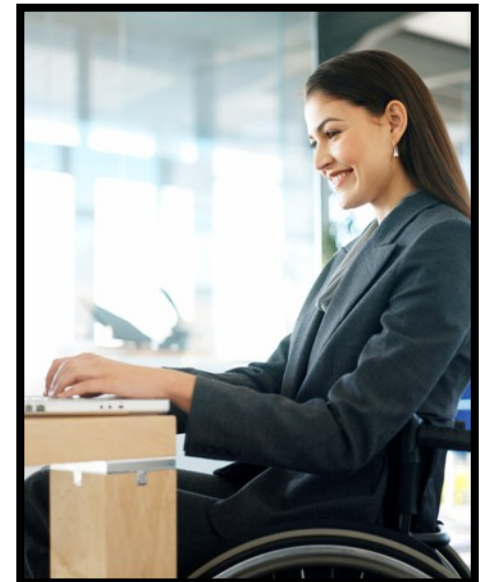
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

c/o Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
3602 Kutztown Road, Suite 200
Reading, PA 19605

BERKS AND SCHUYLKILL COUNTIES

Citizen Advisory Committee

**TO THE READING DISTRICT
OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL
REHABILITATION**



**Ensuring Quality Services to
People with Disabilities**

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO THE READING DISTRICT OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (SERVING BERKS AND SCHUYLKILL COUNTIES)

OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) is to evaluate the services provided by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and to provide needed information and advice to OVR administrators based on feedback from consumers of OVR services. As such, the CAC serves to:

- ▶ Consult and advise on the manner in which services are delivered by OVR to people with disabilities
- ▶ Make suggestions to OVR on needed rehabilitation services and programs
- ▶ Advise on proposed OVR programs, services, and regulations
- ▶ Assist with the formation of positive relationships between OVR staff, people with disabilities, public and private sector employers, and the local community

Participation by consumers in evaluating the OVR service delivery system is essential to ensuring that the assets of people with disabilities are realized, particularly in relation to competitive employment.

OUR MEMBERS



The CAC strives to always have at least one-half of the members be persons with disabilities. Members include:

- ▶ People with disabilities, with an emphasis on current and former customers of OVR services
- ▶ Family members of people with disabilities
- ▶ Members of the business community
- ▶ Representatives of government agencies
- ▶ Providers of services to people with disabilities
- ▶ Representatives of advocacy and support groups for people with disabilities
- ▶ Others interested in improving the rehabilitation process

Every effort is made to ensure satisfactory representation by various disability groups and by gender, race, ethnic origin, and geographic area.

OUR PLAN OF ACTION

On July 22, 2014, President Obama signed into law the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which included new amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The amendments emphasize pre-employment transition services for students with disabilities and employer engagement, including training and technical assistance to employers to increase their ability to recruit and hire individuals with disabilities in competitive integrated employment.

The CAC is committed to promoting a better understanding of OVR programs and procedures. The CAC can develop recommendations for consideration by OVR and can follow up on recommendations to see what actions have been taken.

