

# Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2018-2019



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.

[www.facebook.com/Pennsylvania-Rehabilitation Council](https://www.facebook.com/Pennsylvania-Rehabilitation-Council)



This report covers the activities of the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council (PaRC) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019. Alternate formats and additional copies are available upon request. Contact:

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Current and past reports are also available on the PaRC website:

[www.parac.org](http://www.parac.org)

Pennsylvania State Law requires the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) publish an annual program report on a different timeline than this product. Therefore, traditionally, the PaRC does not include OVR data in its report. The OVR Program report may be requested from:

Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

1521 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street

Harrisburg, PA 17102

**Cover Photo: PA Rehabilitation Council Members**

***Front row from the left: Ms. Susan Soderberg, Dr. David Mann, Ms. Claire Senita, Ms. Passle Helminski with Service Dog, Mr. Matthew Seeley, Esq.***

***Back row from the left: Ms. Juliet Marsala, Mr. John Seely, Jr., Mr. William Frase, Ms. Deborah Arcoleo, Ms. Cindy Duch, Mr. Fred Wright, Mr. William Del Toro Vargas, Mr. Koert Wehberg, Esq.***

***Not shown: Mr. Steve Pennington, Esq., Ms. Michele Leahy***



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***NEWLY ELECTED PaRC OFFICERS  
(2019 – 2020)***



***PASSLE HELMINSKI  
(CHAIR)***



***JOHN SEELY  
(VICE-CHAIR)***



***CINDY DUCH  
(MEMBER AT LARGE)***



**Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council Members  
(Including Category of Representation)  
October 2018 – September 2019**

**Ryan Hyde** – Acting OVR Executive Director (Ex-Officio Member from May 2018 to May 2019)

**Shannon Austin** – OVR Executive Director (Ex-Officio Member from May 2019)

**Deborah Arcoleo** – Intellectual Disabilities

**Mary Brougher** – Business/Industry/Labor (Until July 2019)

**Mary Ann (Cowfer) Moore** – General Advocacy (Until June 2019)

**Cindy Duch** – (Member-at-Large 2019-2020) – IDEA

**Robert F. Fox, III** – Physical Disabilities (Until July 2019)

**William Frase** – Community Rehabilitation Provider

**Passle Helminski** – (Chair 2019-2020) – Cognitive Disabilities

**Leslie Kelly** – Sensory Disabilities / Deaf and Hard of Hearing (Until December 2018)

**Michele Leahy** – Mental Health

**Dr. David Mann** – (Chair 2018-2019) – Current / Former Customer

**Juliet Marsala** – (Member-at-Large 2018-2019) – Rehabilitation Counselor

**Stephen Pennington, Esq.** – Client Assistance Program – Effective 03/15/19

**Matthew R. Seeley, Esq.** – Statewide Independent Living Council

**John Seely, Jr.** – (Vice-Chair 2019-2020) – Business/Industry/Labor

**Claire Senita** – (Vice-Chair 2018-2019) – Young Adult

**Susan Soderberg** – Business/Industry/Labor

**William Del Toro Vargas** – Physical Disabilities

**Koert Wehberg, Esq.** – Sensory Disabilities / Visual

**Frederick Wright** – Business/Industry/Labor (Until September 2019)

**Vacancies** – State Workforce Development Board & State Department of Education



**A Message from Our Past Chair:  
(October 2018 – June 2019)**

It was my privilege to lead the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council from October 2018 through June 2019. As described in this annual report, the Council has been working diligently to deliver on its mission of advising people and officials throughout the Commonwealth about the diverse issues affecting the employment of people with disabilities.

Despite its recent achievements, the Council still has much work to do during this critical time for Pennsylvania's Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR). Due to fiscal pressures, on July 1, 2019, OVR started placing all program eligible applicants on a waitlist for services. As a result, people with disabilities who need assistance in maintaining or obtaining employment will not receive the services they need in a timely manner. Evidence suggests that such service delays make people with disabilities less likely to enter the workforce and more likely to require assistance from government programs. The Council has expressed deep concern about these service delays and has encouraged OVR to address its fiscal issues so that eligible applicants can once again receive services without delay.

For these issues (and anything else that affects employment of people with disabilities in the Commonwealth), the Council has a critical role to play. The Council is a chorus of stakeholders, including OVR customers, advocates, educators, rehabilitation service providers, and business leaders who are all devoted to advancing employment for people with disabilities. As OVR works to address its structural budget issues, the Council will continue engaging with OVR and providing input into its decision-making processes.

The Council looks forward to working in partnership with OVR and other leaders to discuss the diverse issues affecting the employment of people with disabilities in the Commonwealth and develop policies that help people with disabilities obtain and maintain employment.

David Mann



**A Message from Our Incoming Chair  
(July 2019 – June 2020):**

Dear Fellow Pennsylvanians, Governor Wolf, Secretary Oleksiak (Labor and Industry), Mark Allan Schultz (RSA Deputy Commissioner), Shannon Austin (OVR Executive Director), OVR State Board Members, Administrative Staff and the Legislature,

It is my honor to have been elected to serve as Chair of the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council.

The Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council will continue to fulfill its mandate under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Most importantly, the Council will continue to collaborate with OVR to open the Order of Selection as soon as possible, so that Pennsylvanians with disabilities, who are eligible for OVR services, can move towards the goal of competitive integrated employment.

Similarly, the Rehabilitation Council will continue to educate the General Assembly on legislation that removes barriers to employment and the advancement of Pennsylvanians with disabilities, especially within the Commonwealth’s Civil Service hiring framework.

The Council has been and will continue to be involved in receiving reports from the Office of Administration, Work Force Development Boards, Statewide Independent Living Council, Department of Education and OVR. Strengthening these relationships and working together will positively affect successful employment and independent living outcomes for Pennsylvanians with disabilities.

As the incoming Chair of the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council, I look forward to collaborating with all stakeholders to ensure that Pennsylvanians with disabilities, who rely on OVR services, will be served in a timely, efficient, and empathetic manner.

Respectfully,

Passle Helminski, BA, MA, MFA



## COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE REHABILITATION ACT AS AMENDED BY WIOA 2014

Review, analyze, and advise the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) regarding the performance of its responsibilities, particularly those related to eligibility (including order of selection); the extent, and scope and effectiveness of services provided; and the functions performed by State agencies that affect the ability of individuals with disabilities in achieving employment outcomes under Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services.

Partner with OVR to develop, agree to, and review State goals and priorities in accordance with the VR State Plan. The Council and OVR evaluate the effectiveness of the VR program and submits reports of progress to the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Commissioner.

Advise OVR on activities authorized to be carried out under the VR State Plan. Assist in the preparation of the State Plan, and amendments to the plan, applications, reports, needs assessments, and evaluations.

Conduct a review and analysis of the effectiveness of vocational rehabilitation services and consumer satisfaction regarding functions performed, VR services provided, and employment outcomes achieved.

Prepare and submit an annual report to the Governor and the Federal U.S. Department of Education Commissioner of RSA on the status of vocational rehabilitation programs operated within the State.

Coordinate activities with other disability related councils within the State.

Establish working relationships between the Council, the Statewide Independent Living Council, and Centers for Independent Living.

Perform other functions consistent with VR services deemed appropriate by the Council.



*PaRC Members, OVR Staff, & Guests during a Full Council Meeting*





## OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PA OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

This has been a year of change (with the closing of the order of selection) for the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), the Council and individuals seeking services through OVR.

The members of the PA Rehabilitation Council (PaRC) take their responsibility of advising OVR and reporting on the status of employment for persons with disabilities in Pennsylvania seriously. Members understand how employment greatly impacts an individual's quality of life, since 51% of the membership must be individuals with disabilities as required in the Rehabilitation Act.

In order to advise OVR, the council reviews OVR's customer satisfaction surveys from individuals using their services and reviews with OVR their various policies pertaining to services OVR provides. PaRC members also participate on various workgroups formed by OVR to discuss various policies and topics. As needed, the PaRC makes requests to OVR for additional information to aid them in the understanding of an issue.

OVR staff provide quarterly reports on the progress of the current state plan goals at the PaRC quarterly public meetings. When a new state plan needs to be developed, the council and OVR develop a timeline to meet the deadlines established by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA). Then through a series of conference calls and worktime at PaRC public meetings the council makes their recommendations through their attachment called (description a) which becomes part of OVR's state plan. OVR responds back to the recommendations made by the Council. At this point, the state plan is put out to the public for comment through the PA Bulletin and a series of public meetings at the OVR district offices.

### **What We Accomplished as a Council This Year (2018-2019)**

Main areas of focus this year for the PA Rehabilitation Council was the closing of the Order of Selection in all categories by OVR and how this would affect Pennsylvanians with disabilities in the state in obtaining OVR services and ultimately securing competitive integrated employment. The main goal of the council is to assist OVR in evaluating how to resolve the situation and open all categories of the order of selection as soon as possible.

Thirty-five conference calls were held by the committees this year. Listed below by committee is the major work and activities of each committee for the year.

The Council had five standing committees this year in addition to the Executive committee - Legislative and Public Awareness, Policy/State Plan/Customer Service, Transition and Education, CareerLink/WIOA, and Social Media/Outreach.

## Executive Committee

- The PaRC completed and submitted their 2017 - 2018 Annual Report to their fellow Pennsylvanians, the Governor, Secretary of Labor & Industry, RSA Commissioner, OVR staff and State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, PA Legislators, Stakeholders, and State Workforce Development Board in December 2018. To view the 2018 Annual Report and other reports from previous years, go to [www.parac.org](http://www.parac.org). The 2018 – 2019 Annual Report will be completed and disbursed by December 31, 2019 as required by the Rehabilitation Services Administration.
- The committee and staff planned and held four quarterly Council meetings this year. Educational presentations (speakers) this year on topics related to Council responsibilities included: a presentation on PA Managed Care with the following participants: Mr. Ed Butler, Employment Specialist, Bureau of Participant Operations; Ms. Kathy Gordon with AmeriHealth Caritas; Mr. Clement Gyan with UPMC and Mr. Daniel Kleinmann with PA Health and Wellness. At the March meeting, the educational portion was on WIOA Standards/Indicators (What they are and how OVR is obtaining and using the information/plans to improve outcomes) presented by Mr. James Martini, Executive Director from the State Workforce Development Board and Mr. Ryan Hyde, Acting Executive Director at OVR. To assist with the development of the state plan this year, Ms. Sally Gould-Taylor, Director of Research and Evaluation, Institute on Disabilities, Temple University provided a final summary of the Comprehensive State-wide Needs Assessment (CSNA) at the May meeting. In August, Mr. Michael Gamel- McCormick, Disability Policy Director, Special committee on Aging for Senator Casey discussed efforts to increase, stabilize, and strengthen the recruitment and retention of direct service professionals addressing wages and benefits.
- The PaRC Chair/designee provided four quarterly progress reports on PaRC activities/work to the OVR State Board during 2018 – 2019.
- The Executive committee is responsible for recruitment for the Council maintaining the required areas of representation as stated in the Rehabilitation Act. Governor Wolf appointed seven new members during this past year: John Seely, Jr. (Business), Susan Soderberg (Business), Steve Pennington, Esq. (Client Assistance Program), William Frase (Community Rehabilitation Provider), Deborah Arcoleo (Intellectual Disabilities), Michele Leahy (Mental Health), and William Del Toro Vargas (Physical Disabilities).
- The Executive committee continued their working relationships with other disability related Councils and agencies in the state/country some of which are mandated including: OVR State Board, OVR Citizen Advisory Committees, Statewide Independent Living Council, Client Assistance Program, Parent Education Network, State and Local Workforce Development Boards, Disability Budget Coalition, Disability Rights PA, PA Transportation Alliance, Governor’s Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, “I Want To Work,” and the National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Councils.
- Executive members have also reviewed and made recommendations to the Full Council for three additional openings for representation of Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Labor and General Advocacy. Per a new policy, all council members are invited to participate on conference calls to review appointment applications.
- Two members participated on Joyce Bender’s Radio Talk show in Pittsburgh, PA to discuss the Council and their responsibilities in advising OVR. This was one of the outreach activities in the community.

- The Chair wrote a letter of concern on behalf of the council to the Secretary of Labor and Industry regarding OVR's closure of the order of selection and the effects the closure would have on Pennsylvanians with disabilities seeking employment.
- As required, the PaRC Chair participated on the calls regarding OVR's monitoring by RSA this year.
- The Full council participated with the Acting OVR Executive Director on a conference call regarding pre-employment transition training costs.
- Several members attended the National Coalition of State Rehabilitation Councils (NCSRC) conference to remain up to date on national VR issues and receive training on mandated responsibilities of the council.

### **Legislative and Public Awareness Committee – main activities/work**

- Members continued to maintain a network of federal, state, and local level contacts to assure exchange of relevant and current information
- Members identified and followed proposed State and Federal legislation that affect the VR system and issues impacting the employment of persons with disabilities.
- Members updated State and Federal Position Papers regarding the employment needs of persons with disabilities in the State.
- Members disseminated approved position papers concerning full funding for OVR, hiring practices within the State, accessible transportation, and a Disability Caucus.
- Members continued to build upon their relationship with the Governor's Cabinet, Executive Officials, and the Office of Administration.
- Members educated approximately fifty State Elected and Appointed Officials and their staff about the work of OVR and the impact of legislation/policy on people with disabilities to gain and retain employment.
- More specifically, members continued to inform, update and work with State Elected and Appointed Officials and their staff on the following:
  - ❖ the need to facilitate an Expedited Hiring Process so that people with disabilities interested in Civil Service and non-Civil Service jobs have an alternative path to employment with the State, similar to Schedule A on the Federal level; the committee supports HB1548 (An Act amending Title 71, in civil service reform, providing for excepted service hiring and promotion authority; and imposing duties on the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation)
  - ❖ the significant consequences for Commonwealth residents with disabilities who want to work, as well as, the Commonwealth itself as a result of OVR closing the Order of Selection due to the financial impact that Pre-Employment Transition Services had on OVR's budget; members worked with Full Council to provide OVR with recommendations on ways to resolve this fiscal crisis and to prevent it from occurring again in the future
  - ❖ the concern with Act 40, more specifically, the language in the Human Services Code (HB1677) directing the Department of Human Services to provide the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) through a statewide or regional full-risk brokerage system; the committee supports both SB390 and HB986 which delays the implementation of this concept until DHS conducts a thorough review
- One member attended the National Rehabilitation Association's Government Affairs Summit which afforded the opportunity to meet with Senator Toomey and Senator Casey in Washington, DC. Additional packets of information were provided to various PA Representatives.

## **OVR Policy/State Plan/Customer Satisfaction Committee – main activities/work**

- Members reviewed and made recommendations on the following OVR policies: Vehicle Modification, College Policy, and Supported Employment.
- Several members participated in the Vehicle Modification and Order of Selection workgroups this year with OVR staff and other stakeholders.
- Members completed the State Plan attachment (description a) for 2020 – 2024. The committee and full council put forward five areas (issues) in the attachment: 1). the closure of the order of selection for all categories, 2). a review of Hiram G. Andrew Center’s return on investment, 3). a review of OVR’s statutory and regulatory obligations to obtain public comment and/or consult with stakeholders, providers, VR staff, and individuals with disabilities in the development, implementation, and amendment of OVR’s policies and procedures, 4). Strengthen collaboration and partnerships with stakeholders, and 5). Review of OVR policies and procedures.
- Members continue to receive quarterly updates from OVR at their meetings on State Plan progress as well as progress in reopening the Order of Selection (categories).
- Members reviewed OVR’s Customer Satisfaction surveys on a quarterly basis and offered recommendations.
- Members reviewed the results of the comprehensive statewide needs assessment with OVR and Temple University staff in committee and at a quarterly public meeting.

## **Transition and Educational Services Committee – main activities/work**

- Members participated in the Statewide Transition and PADES conferences providing resource materials at the conferences to those who attended. Members also developed a Transition survey to hand out to students and parents to complete at the conference on their experiences with transition services in the state.
- The committee reviews OVR’s transition surveys on a monthly basis to learn how individuals feel about their transition services and to offer recommendations to OVR. On a quarterly basis the committee, reviews information collected for Act 26 (Work Experience for High School Students with Disabilities Act of 2016) provided by OVR.
- The Chair participates on the PA Employment First Oversight Commission.

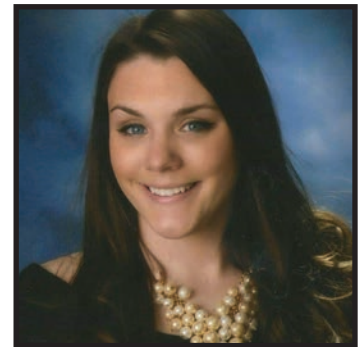
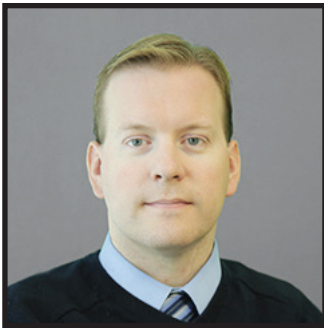
## **CareerLink/WIOA Committee – main activities/work**

- The committee continued to monitor concerns related to CareerLink accessibility with OVR staff during scheduled conference calls. Mobile site accessibility was a concern in the NW part of the State.
- The Director of the State Workforce Development Board (SWDB) provided quarterly updates on what is happening across the state regarding projects, CareerLinks, etc. This committee also is working to ensure persons with disabilities can access the CareerLink sites physically and programmatically.
- The SWDB is a mandated partner on the Council. The Council would like to have a SWDB member appointed to the Council as soon as possible; they are mandated in the Rehabilitation Act as a required member.
- The committee has invited staff from the Equal Opportunity Commission to provide a report on their work on the quarterly calls.
- Members have a goal this year to start reviewing quarterly statistics from CareerLinks regarding services provided to persons with disabilities since more individuals with disabilities will be utilizing CareerLinks to find employment due to the waiting list caused by the closing of the order of selection.

## Social Media/Outreach Committee – main activities/work

- Members and staff continued to work on increasing the council’s social media presence on FaceBook, Twitter, and the PaRC website at [www.parac.org](http://www.parac.org).
- Two members participated in Representative Dan Miller’s Mental Health Fair in Pittsburgh manning the PaRC resource table as part of their outreach goals.

## ***2018 – 2019 COMMITTEE CHAIRS***



***Top row, left to right: Dr. David Mann - Chair of Executive Committee October 2018 -June 2019, Passle Helminski - Chair of Executive Committee July 2019 - present, past Chair of CareerLink Committee, John Seely - Chair of OVR Policy & State Plan/Customer Satisfaction Committee***

***Bottom row, left to right: Koert Wehberg, Esq. - Chair of Legislative & Public Awareness Committee, Cindy Duch - Chair of Transition & Education Committee, Juliet Marsala - Chair of CareerLink Committee, Claire Senita - Chair of Social Media Committee***



# Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council

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## Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council 2018/2019 Federal Position Paper

The Council is mandated by statute with informing and advising the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, the State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Legislature, and the Governor in PA on the diverse issues affecting employment of people with disabilities. This document summarizes the Council's position on key federal laws and policy issues.

**The Rehabilitation Act**, as amended by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) provides for programs that help people with disabilities achieve employment and independence, such as vocational rehabilitation (VR). In order to access federal funding for these programs, states must appropriate some funding. This investment is good for taxpayers, for example, VR customers in PA who found competitive employment in state fiscal year 2017-2018 will likely generate \$53,000,000 in savings, both from taxes paid and fewer benefits used.

WIOA can be strengthened if you support certain policy positions:

- Keep VR a mandatory program with single source funding.
- Increase funding substantially for providing VR services to veterans with disabilities returning to civilian life as well as continuing to screen injured veterans for traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder.
- Reverse changes to the Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) that reduced the standards/requirements to be a qualified rehabilitation counselor working with business or customers.
- SUPPORT **S.117**: Disability Integration Act of 2019, **S.260 & H.R.873**: The Transformation to Competitive Employment Act, **S.150 & H.R.582**: Raise the Wage Act
- Require all commercial health insurance providers to cover brain injury rehabilitation.
- Promote career development and job advancement by expanding the definition of post-employment services to include training and other services necessary for career advancement.
- Clarify when to advise customers of their right to request mediation or due process through the Client assistance Program to review a decision made by VR.
- Require legal training for all impartial due process hearing officers and staff.
- Increase funds for the Older Blind Program to better service the growing aging, blind population.

**Transportation.** Accessible, affordable and safe public transportation is critical for ensuring that people with disabilities can participate in the workforce. Unfortunately, many communities (especially rural ones) lack disability-friendly and accessible public transportation options, even when states are required by law to provide them. Consequently, we encourage you to support changes to the public transportation system that promote and enforce equal access for people with disabilities.

**The Achieving a Better Life Experience (Able) Act** provides for the creation of savings accounts for those who experience a significant disability before age 26. Money in these accounts can pay for disability related expenses and are not subject to taxes or considered for means-tested benefits. We encourage you to support an amendment to the Able Act that would allow all people with significant disabilities (regardless of onset age) to have such accounts.





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## Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council's 2019 State Position Paper

The Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council (PaRC) is mandated by the Rehabilitation Act of 1998, as amended by Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) 2014, to review, analyze, and advise the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) regarding the performance of its responsibilities, particularly those related to eligibility (including order of selection); the extent, scope and effectiveness of services provided; and the functions performed by State agencies that affect the ability of individuals with disabilities in achieving employment outcomes under Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services. The PaRC's Legislative Committee respectfully submits, with approval by Executive Committee and/or Full Council, the following Position Paper for your review and consideration:

### **Sustain Full Funding for OVR Services to Match All Available Federal Funds**

- **Action Requested:** *Funding for the "Transfer to the Vocational Rehabilitation Fund" needs to be at least \$50 million for non-profit commonwealth organizations especially since the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires that 15% of funds must be spent on Pre-Employment Transition Services. This will allow OVR's level of funding to remain constant with previous years and ensure that OVR is able to draw down all available Federal funds.*

### **Expedited Employment**

- **Action Requested:** *The PaRC recommends, through legislation or regulatory action, for the State to establish an Expedited Hiring System so that people with disabilities in Civil Service, Non-Civil Service, and State Contractor hiring positions have an alternative path to employment similar to Schedule A on the Federal level.*

### **Collaboration of Services for Persons with Neurological Injuries in Pennsylvania**

- **Action Requested:** *Collaboration is needed between all state agencies working with persons with neurological injuries to ensure that there is no break in services from in-home services to employment services. Additional dedicated funding is needed for this population.*

### **Adequate Funding of the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH)**

- **Action Requested:** *The PaRC agrees with the Disability Budget Coalition's recommendation as follows: To the extent feasible, increase the state appropriation for the ODHH to \$650,000; authorize ODHH to increase its staff for all its offices or its contracting, or both, at its discretion, within the increased budgetary allocation; move ODHH's budget from the Labor and Industry General Government Operations line item to a separate line item within the overall Labor and Industry budget.*



## **PaRC Supports the Following Regarding Centers for Independent Living (CILs)**

- **Action Requested:** Line item appropriation of \$2.7 million which will enable the CILs to: maintain quality staff and a stable location, effectively deliver services that facilitate transition from nursing homes and other institutions to the community, provide assistance to those at risk of entering institutions, and facilitate transition of youth to postsecondary life (the fifth IL Core service) and provide reasonable benefits; increase the number of individuals served; and lower the cost per individual.

## **Transportation**

- **Action Requested:** Transportation Network Providers, like Uber and Lyft, as well as, all taxi service providers must be required to provide accessible vehicles on demand to people with disabilities. In addition, they should likewise be required to show that all drivers have been educated/trained on the requirements of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act; especially with respect to the provision of service to individuals who use service or guide dogs. The State must work with Amtrak and the Federal Government to ensure that all train stations in the Commonwealth are physically and programmatically accessible, which is not the case today. The Rural Shared Ride System should be regionalized to enable transportation providers to cross County lines in order to assist people with disabilities who use these rides to obtain, maintain, and/or regain employment.

## **Disability Caucus**

- **Action Requested:** The PaRC encourages both the House and Senate to establish a bi-partisan and bi-cameral caucus to review and support legislation that would enable people with disabilities to have equal opportunity in all aspects of their lives and to be productive and contributing members of their communities.

## **The Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council's Legislative and Public Awareness Committee support the following State Bills:**

**[SB390](#):** An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, further providing for nonemergency medical transportation services.

**[SB852](#):** An Act relating to the delivery of services and programs to persons with disabilities; conferring powers and duties on the Office of the Governor; establishing the Office for People with Disabilities and the Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities; and providing for the powers and duties of the office and the advisory committee and for funding of the office and the advisory committee.

**[HB539](#):** An Act amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in licensing of drivers, further providing for Medical Advisory Board.

**[HB986](#):** An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, in public assistance, further providing for nonemergency medical transportation services.

**[HB113](#):** An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, providing for students with disabilities at institutions of higher education.

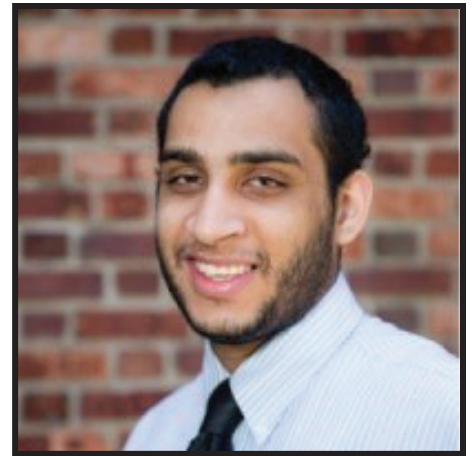
**HR74:** A Concurrent Resolution declaring that the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is committed to equal rights for individuals with cognitive disabilities to technology and information access and calling for implementation of these rights with deliberate speed.

**HB1363:** An Act establishing a bill of rights for individuals with intellectual disabilities or autism; and conferring powers and duties on the Department of Human Services.

*For additional information or questions, please contact PaRC's support staff [racucpca@ucpcentralpa.org](mailto:racucpca@ucpcentralpa.org)*



***PaRC members Passle Helminski with Service Dog & William Del Toro Vargas (pictured left); Matt Seeley, Esq., & John Seely (pictured right) meeting with Legislators and Staff in Harrisburg***



## ***PaRC Member Story***

William Del Toro Vargas is a new member with the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council (PaRC). William, who currently receives OVR services, stated that he felt the desire to become a member of the Council to be a voice on behalf of people with disabilities. William's hope is to assist OVR in reshaping their programs and services for future participants.

William, originally from Puerto Rico, was raised in North Philadelphia. William has self-disclosed his disability; he has autism and a physical disability. When he was young, he was misdiagnosed with an intellectual disability.

William started receiving OVR services in 2012. He began to work with the #IWantToWork Campaign in 2014 as their lead Legislative Advocate, where he advocated for the Work Experience for High School Students with Disabilities Act, also called Act 26, which passed in May of 2016. William also worked on Employment First which officially became law in PA in June of 2018.

William is a board member of PA APSE, the Association of People Supporting Employment First. He worked for the Pennsylvania Education for All Coalition as a Project Coordinator as well as the Arc of Philadelphia as a Youth Leadership Abilities Coordinator. William is currently employed at Transition Consults, LLC, as a Certified Supports Broker.

William currently serves as the PaRC Policy & State Plan/Customer Satisfaction Committee Chair. William continues to receive job coaching services through Community Integrated Services. William says, "I have executive function issues that I still require assistance with, and I'm not embarrassed to say that I sometimes need help. OVR has been a great service for me to be able to stay employed and to better my skills for the future."



## STATE PLAN ATTACHMENT (2020-2024)

The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services Portion of the Unified or Combined State Plan must include the following descriptions and estimates, as required by section 101(a) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended by WIOA:

### **(a) Input of State Rehabilitation Council.**

*All agencies, except for those that are independent consumer-controlled commissions, must describe the following:*

- (1) input provided by the State Rehabilitation Council, including input and recommendations on the VR services portion of the Unified or Combined State Plan, recommendations from the Council's report, the review and analysis of consumer satisfaction, and other Council reports that may have been developed as part of the Council's functions;*
- (2) the Designated State unit's response to the Council's input and recommendations; and*
- (3) the designated State unit's explanations for rejecting any of the Council's input or recommendations.*

The Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council (PaRC) used the following sources to develop its recommendations to the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR):

1. the PaRC annual report (Federal Fiscal Year 2018 - 2019);
2. OVR Customer Satisfaction Surveys;
3. review of items in 2018 State Plan Attachment (description a);
4. comments received at 2018 State Plan Meetings;
5. participation in the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) monitoring (2019);
6. Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA) FFY 2016 – 2018 OVR/Institute on Disabilities at Temple University;
7. local Citizen Advisory Committees (CAC) meetings and/or minutes; and quarterly reports received from OVR at PaRC Council meetings.

Commendation: The Council supports OVR in their efforts to open the order of selection as soon as possible for the benefit of Pennsylvanians with disabilities seeking employment services through OVR.

1. The Closure of the Order of Selection (OOS) for All Categories

**Issue:** The closure of the Order of Selection (OOS) for all categories represents a significant challenge to people with disabilities having access to employment services when they are needed. OVR must develop appropriate internal controls and other

adjustments in order to re-open the OOS as soon as possible and update the PaRC regarding progress on at least a quarterly basis.

**RECOMMENDATIONS/MEASURABLE GOALS:**

- A. OVR provides quarterly reports (at a minimum) to the PaRC on how many people were added to and removed from the waiting list in each category each quarter.
- B. OVR provides quarterly reports (at a minimum) to the PaRC and the State VR Board on new application response times.
- C. OVR establishes a clear deadline for reopening the OOS with intermediate steps and goals to re-open the OOS on time. OVR provides quarterly reports (at a minimum) to the PaRC on progress and factors affecting progress toward achieving the goal of re-opening the OOS on a permanent basis by the deadline.
- D. Identify resources and opportunities outside of OVR for organizations to provide employment services to OVR customers on the waitlist.

2. Hiram G. Andrews Center (HGAC)

**Issue:** OVR's current fiscal problems require a review of HGAC's return on investment.

**RECOMMENDATIONS/MEASURABLE GOALS:**

A. OVR should conduct a study at a minimum of every 3 years and report on the return on investment (compared to community-based VR services) for students attending HGAC. HGAC's yearly budget averages approximately \$23 million, which includes staff, operations, brick and mortar and other costs. Overall, the cost per customer is reported as significantly higher at HGAC than that of non-HGAC customers. The report must include:

- (1) an analysis on return on investment;
- (2) an impact statement on customer choice;
- (3) a review of the extent to which its programs are provided in an integrated setting;
- (4) an assessment of the availability of HGAC programs in the community; and
- (5) a determination of what other partners like the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) should be paying/contributing.

- 3. Conduct a review of OVR's statutory and regulatory obligations to obtain public comment and/or consult with stakeholders, providers, VR staff, and individuals with disabilities in the development, implementation and amendment of OVR's policies and procedures.

**Issue:** Pursuant to 34 CFR 361.20, OVR is required to solicit public participation when it proposes to develop, amend or otherwise modify substantive policies/procedures affecting OVR services.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS/MEASURABLE GOALS:**

- A. OVR should provide quarterly information on the number and names of new/amended policies, such as a college policy or vehicle modification policy, being developed or in consideration for future development/modification, including how they differ from any existing policy and the potential number of customers impacted by the policy.
- B. Inclusion of the Council in the development/amendment of the policy/procedure, the proposed timeline of implementation, including schedule of public comments and plans to educate stakeholders on the new/amended policy/procedure.

#### 4. Strengthen Collaboration and Partnerships with Stakeholders

**Issue:** OVR has made significant changes to services without including key stakeholders throughout the change development process. OVR needs to make sure that those changes will not unnecessarily reduce the achievement of outcomes in terms of quantity and quality.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS/MEASURABLE GOALS:**

- A. Before OVR makes any substantive changes, the PaRC will be informed of what needs to change and why, and what affected stakeholder representatives are being included in the change development process.
- B. OVR provides (at a minimum) quarterly reports to the PaRC on all substantive changes either anticipated or currently in development with information on progress, including key stakeholder representative involvement and contributions to the process.
- C. OVR provides annual reports (at a minimum) on feedback survey information from key partners.
- D. OVR provides quarterly progress reports with measures of quality and quantity of outcomes for partnerships, programs, and services including pre-employment transition services, local workforce development boards, supported and customized employment, business services and PA CareerLinks®.

#### 5. Review of OVR Policies and Procedures

**Issue:** Clarification is required regarding public participation in the adoption or amendment of OVR policy, and OVR's obligation to consult with the PaRC, among others, on matters of general policy arising in the administration of the VR services portion of the State Plan.

**RECOMMENDATIONS/MEASURABLE GOALS:**

- A. OVR reports to the PaRC on a quarterly basis substantive policies and procedures under review which are subject to public meetings, non-substantive administrative changes, and policies on matters of general administration of the VR program which require consultation. Additionally, include quarterly reports on workgroups.



***Pictured Left:  
PaRC members Passle Helminski with Service Dog  
and John Seely at the NCSRC Conference  
in Jacksonville, FL***

***Pictured Right:  
PaRC members Steve Pennington, Esq., Mary  
Brougher, & Bob Fox during a Full Council Meeting  
in Harrisburg***



## PA REHABILITATION COUNCIL COMMITTEE GOALS (2019-2020)

### Executive Committee

**Goal #1: Continue to improve relationships and collaboration with the PA State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Citizen Advisory Committees and other stakeholder organizations in the Commonwealth to avoid duplication of efforts and enhance the number of individuals served.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Provide support and guidance on quarterly calls with CAC chairs. Also help develop a handbook/training manual, bylaws, agendas, invitations, topics/project lists, etc.
- 2.) Continue to attend OVR Board Meetings and invite board members to council meetings, special projects, and retreats.
- 3.) Continue to partner with OVR, State Independent Living Center (SILC), Client Assistance Program (CAP), Disability Rights PA (DRPA), Governor's Oversight Board on Employment First and others on issues affecting persons with disabilities and employment.

**Goal #2: Continue to provide leadership and guidance to new and all members and committees in accordance with the mission and bylaws of the Council and the Rehabilitation Act as amended by WIOA 2014.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Past chair and chair should provide ongoing support and encouragement to new members. New council members should have opportunities to attend conferences and trainings to increase their knowledge base. New members should be given the opportunity to ask questions of both council members and OVR staff.

**Goal #3: Continue to increase public awareness in Pennsylvania about OVR services and the Council's mission and responsibilities through increased attendance and participation by council members at stakeholder meetings, youth organization and disability and civic organizations**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Attend conferences/trainings and expos to highlight both the Council and OVR Transition conference, PADES conference, NRA,



NCSRC, Blind Expo, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Social Media and Outreach committee events, projects, success stories, etc.

**Goal #4: Continue oversight of the following: PaRC budget, quarterly meeting agendas, annual report, strategic planning, annual retreat, member recruitment, election of officers, and annually review bylaws with any revisions with the members.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Each member on the committee should provide input and help with these duties as listed in the goal.

### **CareerLink/WIOA Committee**

**Goal #1: Work with OVR to help the Workforce Development Board (WDB) to ensure each CareerLink is physically and programmatically accessible at all its locations.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Work with OVR and WDB to review and improve all training practices; need to know what they are and if they are working.
- 2.) Work with OVR and WDB to review and improve physical site locations.

**Goal #2: Identify, review, and monitor the CareerLink reportage system for both the Department of Labor and Industry and Equal Opportunity Commission.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Staff will continue to seek representatives from the EOC and State Workforce Development Board to report out on statistics / issues regarding employment for persons with disabilities.

**Goal #3: Increase the PaRC's participation in State and local WDB meetings.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Educate / advocate about the PaRC and OVR and learn about what these State and local boards are doing in the State.

**Goal #4: Work with OVR and WDB to understand all provisions of WIOA and how they impact persons with disabilities.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Members will review the WIOA weekly update from OVR and keep the Council informed.

## Legislative Committee

### **Goal #1: Increase the PaRC's advocacy on behalf of persons with disabilities regarding obtaining and maintaining employment**

#### **Steps to achieve goal:**

- 1.) Continuously monitor, review, and prioritize pending State and Federal Legislation that directly or indirectly affects the employment of people with disabilities. This would include making recommendations to the Executive Committee and/or the Full Council to oppose or support State or Federal initiatives.
- 2.) Continue meeting with Congressional Delegations from PA in Washington at least one time a year to position the PaRC as a resource to federal legislators concerning legislation and services for persons with disabilities.
- 3.) Continue visiting state legislators in Harrisburg at least twice a year and their district offices to advocate for legislation that has an impact on the disability community, particularly related to employment.
- 4.) Continually monitor information and resources and disseminate information to the PaRC's Legislative Network through Legislative updates and Legislative Alerts.
- 5.) Educate and train new committee and Council members on how to advocate with legislators on the local level and nationally.

### **Goal #2: Increase advocacy on behalf of the returning disabled veterans who are seeking employment and employment supports through Pennsylvania state services.**

#### **Steps to achieve goal:**

- 1.) Invite speakers to at least one Full Council Meeting from different veteran's organizations to educate Council members on how to advocate for support services and encourage reciprocal participation by Council members in their organization.
- 2.) Meet with Veteran Advocates in District Offices to gain a better understanding of the needs of returning Veterans seeking employment.

### **Goal #3: Develop collaborative relationships with other organizations, which have similar missions and mutual legislative goals, to maximize our combined legislative impact for people with disabilities.**

### **Steps to achieve goal:**

- 1.) Continue to work with the SILC, Workforce Investment Boards, PACARES, the OVR Board, the Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Network, the Disability Budget Coalition, the Governor's Advisory Council, and any other organizations as deemed appropriate.

### **OVR Policy, State Plan, and Customer Satisfaction Committee (OPSP&CSC)**

#### **Responsibilities:**

- 1.) Lead the Council's involvement in producing the VR Portion of Combined State Plan (Plan).
  - a. Develop the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council's (Council's) section of the Plan
  - b. Review and provide feedback to the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) about its sections of the Plan
  - c. Attend public meetings for the Plan
- 2.) Review, analyze, and provide feedback to OVR and Council on OVR policies and procedures.
- 3.) Review OVR customer satisfaction data and provide feedback to OVR and Council on the state of customer satisfaction.

### **Goal #1: Maintain a positive working relationship with the Department of Labor and Industry, OVR, and Bureau of Workforce Partnership & Operations.**

#### **Steps to Achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Use the OPSP&CSC to engage OVR and other partners about employment policies and procedures. Create dialogues with these partners that help advance the Council's mission.

### **Goal #2: Support the development of the Plan.**

#### **Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Consulting OVR's timeline for development of the Plan, establish with OVR deadlines for OPSPC and Council involvement and input for the Plan. OPSP&CSC will work to have the Council meet its various deadlines regarding the Plan.
- 2.) Identify and review input into the Plan from:
  - a. The various OVR advisory bodies,
  - b. Previous public hearing comments, and
  - c. OVR customer satisfaction survey results.
- 3.) Review with OVR the status of and progress with the current plan during select OPSP&CSC meetings and at all Full Council meetings.

**Goal #3: Monitoring of OVR policies and procedures.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Participate in OVR workgroups formed to draft new policies or revise existing policies.
- 2.) Verify that Council staff has complete and current counselor manuals, numbered memoranda, etc. in the office reference library.
- 3.) Review any memorandums OVR sends to the Council.
- 4.) Ensure Citizen Advisory Committees' (CACs') access to OVR policies and procedures for review and comment, so that the Council may have an opportunity to incorporate CAC input into its own feedback.
- 5.) Evaluate the effects of program policy changes.

**Goal #4: Partner with OVR to review, evaluate, and make recommendations based on results on the combined Customer Satisfaction Survey.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Evaluate data on a quarterly basis.
- 2.) Evaluate questions and recipients on an annual basis.
- 3.) Provide specific recommendations to increase survey responses and improve customer satisfaction.

**Goal #5: Partner with OVR to develop, implement, and review the comprehensive statewide needs assessment survey.**

**Goal #6: Partner with OVR to review due process issues to assure good quality outcomes for consumer customers. OVR will share same report that goes to OVR Board on a quarterly basis.**

**Social Media / Outreach Committee**

**Goal #1: Promote OVR and Council's mission through the PaRC webpage, Facebook and Twitter.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Share stories each week on PaRC Facebook. Anything regarding persons with disabilities (pwd)/employment or interesting or viral videos/stories featuring pwd to engage audience and widen our online presence.

- 2.) Post a picture of each council member and a few “about me” sentences to Facebook once a week, so the public can know who is representing them each week or every other week.

**Goal #2: PaRC representation at various events across the State to promote PaRC and OVR.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Attend as many events each year as we can related to disability issues, employment, etc. across the State. Set up resource table, etc.

**Goal #3: Publish Success Stories from consumer and business customers to inform the public about OVR services. As funds are available.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Publish stories from OVR consumer customers per year or as funds are available.
- 2.) Publish stories from OVR business customers per year or as funds are available.

**Transition & Education Committee**

**Goal #1: Participation at the Transition Conference and the PA Department of Education’s (PDE) PADES annual conference for awareness on what the PaRC does and our purpose.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Participation in the Transition Conference.
  - Identify who will attend.
  - Complete appropriate forms/payment for exhibiting.
  - Coordinate with attendees/staff what materials will be needed on Exhibit table.
- 2.) Participation in the PADES Conference – TBA
  - Identify who will attend.
  - Complete appropriate forms/payment for exhibiting.
  - Coordinate with attendees/staff what materials will be needed on Exhibit table.

**Goal #2: Improve communication with Bureau of Special Education (BSE) regarding transition.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Attend PA Secondary Transition Community of Practice State Leadership Team meetings.
- 2.) Ensure that PDE/BSE representative or designee reports at each Transition/Education Committee meeting.
- 3.) Ensure that a *State of Transition in PA* report from PDE/BSE is provided at each quarterly PaRC meeting.

**Goal #3: Monitor the increase of competitive integrated employment options through the Employment First Law.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Participate in webinars – Devon Grant provides monthly through Employment First State Mentoring Program.
- 2.) PaRC is to have a representative on the Employment First Oversight Committee.

**Goal #4: Committee will monitor OVR and the Department of Education's efforts to implement the best practices regarding transition throughout the State.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Coordinate with OVR and PDE/BSE on trainings being held by PaTTAN, PDE/BSE, OVR, PEAL Center, Etc.
- 2.) When possible, participate in trainings with PaTTAN, PDE, and OVR.
- 3.) Review customer satisfaction surveys of transition.
- 4.) Reports from our PDE/BSE member at our quarterly meetings and on committee calls.

**Goal #5: To have OVR evaluate their policies and training programs at Hiram G. Andrews to assure that students are receiving top technical training and certifications in an integrated setting, so that graduates are job ready.**

**Steps to achieve the goal:**

- 1.) Evaluate the steps being taken to ensure students without disabilities are being included in HGAC programs to ensure it is an integrated setting.
- 2.) Evaluate and monitor the resources at HGAC to ensure they are up-to-date and are conducive to attracting students to the programs.
- 3.) New council members are invited to participate in training at HGAC.



***PaRC members Claire Senita, Passle Helminski with Service Dog, John Seely, & Matt Seeley, Esq., continue to advocate and educate Legislators and Staff on the employment needs of individuals with disabilities throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania***



If you are interested in becoming a PaRC member, please review the standards below that members have developed.

## PaRC MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

### **Active Participation:**

In order to fulfill its federal requirements, the Rehabilitation Council must have active participation by its members. Active participation is defined as:

- Attend all four (4) of the scheduled full Council meetings in any fiscal year. Severe weather and personal emergencies are understandable exceptions.
- Participate on at least one standing committee or ad-hoc committee during the fiscal year.
- Respond to action items during or between Council meetings. Examples may include, but are not limited to:
  - Review of support documents for meeting action items.
  - Review and return of surveys, draft documents, etc. when requested.
- Attend Office of Vocational Rehabilitation public meetings, State Board meetings, Consumer Advisory Committee meetings, etc. when feasible.

### **Represent the Rehabilitation Council in Meeting and Work Groups:**

Although members represent diverse constituencies and points of view, it is important for the Rehabilitation Council to speak as a single entity in meetings and work groups. The Council recognizes that individuals may also wish to convey additional opinions or information during discussions. In order to assure consistency without restricting members' actions, the following guidelines were adopted on April 14, 1999:

If a Rehabilitation Council member is serving on a rehabilitation related work group, committee or is giving testimony as a ***designated and official spokesperson of Council***, the following guidelines will apply:

- The Council member shall state that s/he is representing the Rehabilitation Council.
- The Council member shall state the Council's official position on the subject being discussed if one exists or is known. If the Council's official position is unknown or has not been developed, the Council representative shall indicate that s/he will request the Council's office to forward the position or ask the Council to review the subject and render an official position if one is needed.
- The Council member may have a different, personal opinion on the subject being discussed. If this is so, the Council member should state that it is a personal opinion and not the official position of PA-Rehabilitation Council.
- The Council member shall not commit financial support and/or other resources of the Council to any non-RC committee, workgroup, function, etc., without the previous authorization of PA-Rehabilitation Council.
- In order to receive reimbursement for expenses occurred while acting as a designated Council spokesperson, the member shall follow established procedures for obtaining reimbursement.

These objectives are meant solely to improve and expedite the accomplishments of the Rehabilitation Council, so as to better the lives of persons with disabilities. Your cooperation and time are appreciated.

If you are interested in becoming a member and can meet the expectations, please complete the Appointment Request Form on the next page and return to: Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council Office, 55 Utley Drive, Camp Hill PA 17011. Also, forward a word document of your resume and two references familiar with your disability related work/experiences to [racucpca@ucpcentralpa.org](mailto:racucpca@ucpcentralpa.org)

***When the Appointment Request Form, Resume and References have been received in the office, the PaRC members review them and make recommendations to the Governor's Office. The Governor appoints all members.***





# Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council

55 Utley Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011  
Voice (717) 975-2004 or (888) 250-5175 TTY (717) 737-0158 Fax (888)524-9282  
Email: [racucpca@ucpcentralpa.org](mailto:racucpca@ucpcentralpa.org) [www.parac.org](http://www.parac.org)

## APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT REQUEST FORM

NAME

HOME ADDRESS

HOME PHONE/CELL PHONE

EMAIL

EMPLOYER (if applicable)

EMPLOYER ADDRESS

EMPLOYER PHONE

EMPLOYER EMAIL

Check the category/categories that you could represent on the council (check as many as apply):

- Representative of the PA Statewide Independent Living Council.
- Representative of a parent training and information center established pursuant to Section 671 of the individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- Representative of the Client Assistance Program (CAP)
- Qualified vocational rehabilitation counselor with knowledge of and experience with vocational rehabilitation programs.
- Representative of community rehabilitation program service providers.
- Representative of business, industry, and labor.
- Representative of disability advocacy groups representing:
  - (I) Individuals with physical, cognitive, sensory and mental disabilities, and
  - (II) Individuals' representatives of individuals with disabilities who have difficulty in representing themselves or are unable due to their disabilities to represent themselves.
- Current or former applicants for, or recipients of, vocational rehabilitation services.
- Representative of the State educational agency responsible for the public education of students with disabilities who are eligible to receive services under this title and Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- Representative of the State Workforce Development Board.
- Young Adult
- Veteran
- Other – Please Specify \_\_\_\_\_

KEY AFFILIATIONS AND ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATION

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE HOW YOUR SKILLS, EXPERIENCE, ETC. MATCH THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE REHABILITATION COUNCIL.

SIGNATURE

DATE

*\*Please attach a resume or brief biography and two written references. Documents should be emailed to [racucpca@ucpcentralpa.org](mailto:racucpca@ucpcentralpa.org) in word document format.*

Form revised 03/19

**FOLD**

**RETURN ADDRESS**

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**Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council  
55 Utley Drive  
Camp Hill, PA 17011**

**FOLD**



# Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council

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## Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2020

❖ February 19, 2020 (Wednesday)  
Harrisburg – Hilton & Towers

❖ May 13, 2020 (Wednesday)  
Harrisburg – Hilton & Towers

❖ August 5, 2020 (Wednesday)  
Harrisburg – Hilton & Towers

❖ November 18, 2020 (Wednesday)  
Harrisburg – Hilton & Towers

**These meetings are open to the public. For more information or for persons who require reasonable modifications or accommodations including a sign language interpreter, real time captioning, or alternate format, contact the PaRC Office at (717) 975-2004.**

**We welcome any questions or comments you may have and appreciate your interest in the work of the Council.**

# Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council

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EMAIL: [racucpa@ucpcentralpa.org](mailto:racucpa@ucpcentralpa.org) - WEBSITE: [www.parac.org](http://www.parac.org)

Submitted To:

The Pennsylvania Legislature

The Rehabilitation Services Administration

Tom Wolf, Governor of Pennsylvania

The State Board of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

The Pennsylvania Workforce Development Board

The Pennsylvania Department of Education

In compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended by WIOA 2014.



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