



Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council

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PaRC Newsletter: July 21, 2022

PaRC 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.

New PaRC Newsletter and Website

Dedicated members of the PaRC Social Media / Outreach Committee have continued to work diligently on providing engaging content in an effort to strengthen and grow partnerships with the many valued stakeholders of the Council throughout the Commonwealth. In the coming months please be on the lookout and check all of your email inboxes for a revamped PaRC Newsletter that will feature more engaging content and features using new email marketing services. Members encourage everyone to please share information and outreach efforts included in PaRC social media and the PaRC newsletter with members of your community.

PaRC members also invite everyone to become more involved with the Council. Information about PaRC Full Council and Committee meetings are included in the new [PaRC website](http://parehabilitationcouncil.org). The website highlights all of the important work the Council does in pursuit of improving and increasing employment opportunities for people with disabilities in Pennsylvania made possible through its partnership with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) along with its many valued stakeholders. The site provides access to information, resources, and documents for Council meetings, Committee work, membership, recruitment, mandates, partnerships, Annual Reports, history, news, Citizen Advisory Committees (CAC), and much more. The Council welcomes everyone to share the new link and provide your comments and questions about the site at our new [contact page](http://parehabilitationcouncil.org) or by email at PaRC@parehabilitationcouncil.org.

You may access the new PaRC website at the following link:

<https://parehabilitationcouncil.org/>

NEWS, RESOURCES, AND EVENTS OF INTEREST:

1.) July 2022 marks the 32nd anniversary of the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Please join the PaRC as we pay tribute to one of the first champions of the ADA, Governor Thornburgh.

Learn more about Governor Thornburgh at the link below.

<https://dredf.org/2021/01/01/in-honor-of-richard-dick-thornburgh-1932-2020/>

2.) National Organization on Disability (NOD) Salutes Longtime Leaders Tom Ridge and Carol Glazer Who Share Plans of Leadership Transition

Together, Ridge and Glazer led NOD in becoming the foremost partner to corporate America in ensuring more employment opportunities for people with disabilities

You may click the links provided for more information.

<https://www.nod.org/nod-salutes-longtime-leaders-tom-ridge-and-carol-glazer-who-share-plans-of-leadership-transition/>

3.) Looking Back on the Passing of the ADA

Accessibility in the Federal Workspace

"Beloved colleagues in struggle, listen to the heart of this old soldier. Our lives, our children's lives, the quality of the lives of billions in future generations hangs in the balance. I cry out to you from the depths of my being. Humanity needs you! Lead! Lead! Lead the revolution of empowerment!" - Justin Dart, Jr.

Learn more about Justin Dart, Jr., known as the "Godfather of the ADA" at the following link.

<https://drcnh.org/.../looking-back-on-the-passing-of-the.../>

4.) #ThanksToTheADA Campaign

Share a moment in your life when you were thankful for the ADA!

Learn more about participating at the following link.

<https://adata.org/thanks-to-the-ada-campaign>

5.) US Department of Labor, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Host HIRE Roundtable on Making Workplaces More Inclusive

On June 28, 2022, the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) hosted an online discussion on skills-based hiring to promote equal employment opportunity in the workplace.

You may click the link provided for more information.

<https://www.eeoc.gov/newsroom/us-department-labor-equal-employment-opportunity-commission-host-hire-roundtable-making>

Events

ADA Jeopardy 2022

Tune in as teams from the ten regional ADA Centers test their ADA knowledge and ability to provide an answer in the form of a question! Topics to challenge the teams include: ADA and employment; digital access; effective communication; facility access; and reasonable modifications in policies, practices, and procedures. Cheer for your regional Center team and learn along the way. Top two regional Center teams advance to the final championship showdown on July 25th! The game is afoot.

Monday, July 25, 2022 from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM EDT

Register at the link below.

[ADA Jeopardy 2022 - Round Two](#)

ADA Live! is a free monthly show broadcast nationally on the web. Learn about your rights and responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Leaders in the field will share their knowledge, experience and successful strategies that increase the participation of persons with disabilities in communities and businesses.

Learn more at the link below.

<https://adalive.org/>

Who Are the Heroes? A History of the Disability Rights Movement (MCLE)

In celebration of the 32nd anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, this presentation explores the key moments and personalities of the disability rights movement over the past one hundred years. Participants will learn about our heroes who, through their courage and conviction, fought for equality and laid the foundation of the four "pillars" of the ADA, full participation, independent living, equality of opportunity, and economic self-sufficiency.

Fri, July 22, 2022, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM EDT

Learn more at the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/who-are-the-heroes-a-history-of-the-disability-rights-movement-mcle-tickets-372418392437?fbclid=IwAR1f-mGjWMJk1q-C73T34auhbQWg13P5r0uq0PGVyAVWm8QsvdhBiI m78>

Disability Pride in PA 2022

Visit the link below to learn more about Disability Pride events that were recently held in Philadelphia in June.

<https://whyy.org/articles/disability-pride-2022-a-community-reunited-at-last/>

Interested in attending Disability Pride events in Pittsburgh and throughout the Commonwealth?

Visit the following link to learn more.

<https://www.disabilitypridepa.org/>

Look for our October Newsletter spotlighting National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM).

Learn more about the 2022 NDEAM theme of “Disability: Part of the Equity Equation” at the following link:

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20220622>

Sharing Your Success

PaRC Social Media / Outreach Committee would like to highlight OVR Employment Success Stories on the PaRC website, social media, Annual Report, and other communications. If you or someone you know would be interested in sharing an important employment related milestone achieved with the assistance of OVR services, please let us know. Such achievements may include attaining a dream job, a promotion, an important anniversary of successful integrated competitive employment, or other successes.

Spotlighting the important work and successful attainment of employment that is made possible through OVR services is the foremost mechanism for the PaRC to fulfill its mission. Please feel free to contact us with your information, questions, or comments at parc@parehabilitationcouncil.org

PaRC 2020-2021 Annual Report

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended by Title IV of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires State Rehabilitation Councils (SRC) to submit an annual report to the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) and to the Governor of the State on the status of vocational rehabilitation programs operated within the State. The report also provides an excellent resource to learn more about the PaRC. For a printed copy of the Annual Report, please send a request to parc@parehabilitationcouncil.org

You may click the link provided for access to the 2020-2021 PaRC Annual Report.

<https://parehabilitationcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/2020-2021PaRCAnnualReport.pdf>

The previous year's, 2019-2020 Annual Report can be accessed by clicking the following link.

<https://parehabilitationcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/2019-2020-PARC-ANNUAL-REPORT.pdf>

PaRC Council Member Openings

Please help spread the word. The PaRC is accepting applications for candidates to fill the following categories of representation that are currently open:

- Business/Industry/Labor (2 openings)
- Cognitive Disabilities
- Parent Training and Information Center (PEAL Center)
- Rehabilitation Counselor
- State Workforce Development Board
- Young Adult

As of July 2023, the categories of representation listed below will also be available. PaRC encourages all applicants to apply as early as possible to ensure a timely transition of membership:

- Business/Industry/Labor

If you are interested or know of someone who is interested in becoming a member of the PA Rehabilitation Council, please go to our website

(<https://parehabilitationcouncil.org/get-involved/become-a-member/>) and fill out an application.

Pennsylvania State Board of Rehabilitation





The Pennsylvania State Board of Rehabilitation meets quarterly to hear reports from directors of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) as well as the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council (PaRC), the Client Assistance Program (CAP), and the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC).

These meetings are chaired by the Secretary of Labor and Industry. The next State Board meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 8, 2022**. The public is welcome to attend all meetings. For details, please email Cheryl Novak at chenovak@pa.gov.

2022 PaRC and State Board meeting dates

(double click icon to add dates to your calendar)

****Location of all PaRC meetings will remain virtual for Calendar Year 2022***

| PaRC | State Board |
|--|--|
| Wednesday, August 10, 2022 Virtual/Zoom  8-10-2022 PaRC Full Council Meeting.ics | Thursday, September 8, 2022 Pittsburgh  9-8-2022 State Board Meeting.ics |
| Wednesday, October 19, 2022 Virtual/Zoom  10-19-2022 PaRC Full Council Meeting.i | Thursday, December 1, 2022 Harrisburg  12-1-2022 State Board Meeting.ics |

***** PaRC Calendar Year 2022 – Please Mark your Calendars *****

Videos

The PaRC Social Media and Outreach Committee in partnership with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) produced videos of 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 videos. Please feel free to share.

[PaRC Aha Moment](#)

[PaRC Dream Partnership](#) [PaRC Herr Foods Inc.](#)

[PaRC Keystone Blind Association](#) [PaRC Assistive Technology](#)

***If you no longer wish to receive this update, please contact Chris Todd at Christopher.Todd@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 **July 21, 2022**, all links have been verified. Please credit the PaRC Support Project for any information forwarded to others. Thank You.

PLEASE LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! 