



PACE

The Program of All-Inclusive
Care for the Elderly

Provided by Carolina SeniorCare



Care and services included:

- Adult day care that offers nursing; physical, occupational and recreational therapies; meals; nutritional counseling; social work and personal care
- Medical care provided by a PACE physician familiar with the history, needs and preference of each participant
- Home health care and personal care
- All necessary prescription drugs
- Social services
- Medical specialists such as audiology, dentistry, optometry, podiatry, and speech therapy
- Transportation
- Hospital and nursing home care when necessary

A program for elderly who desire to live at home

Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) are unique programs providing a full spectrum of health care services, from primary to acute to long-term care for frail elderly individuals certified to require nursing home care. PACE programs are centered around the belief that it is better for the well-being of seniors with chronic care needs and their families to be served in the community whenever possible.

The PACE Health Center

At the center of the PACE program is a PACE Health Center. At the Center, clinical and rehabilitative services are coordinated and participants visit, socialize and build meaningful relations with doctors, nurses and other program participants.

The program includes delivering all needed medical and supportive services; the program is able to provide the entire continuum of care and services to seniors with chronic care needs while maintaining their independence in their homes for as long as possible.



History

The PACE model was first formed in San Francisco in the early 1970s when a grassroots group of families sought to avoid placing their elderly relatives in nursing homes. These families accomplished this goal by offering a comprehensive set of services, including medical care, physical and occupational therapy,

nutrition, transportation, and socialization. Because this model worked, a national PACE demonstration project was initiated in 1986. Congress then authorized permanent status for PACE programs in 1997 recognizing that this program provided an excellent solution for aging seniors and their families. There are now almost 57 PACE programs in 29 states.

Funding

PACE programs pool multiple sources of funding including Federal (Medicare), State (Medicaid) and private funding. By pooling these resources at the program level, maximum flexibility, effectiveness and cost-savings are achieved.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for PACE, a person must be aged 55 or older, certified by the state to need nursing home care, and live in an area served by a PACE program. If a PACE enrollee does need nursing home care, the PACE program pays for it and continues to coordinate the enrollee's care. A PACE participant is free to dis-enroll from PACE and resume their benefits in the traditional Medicare and Medicaid programs at any time.

Who is the typical PACE participant?

According to the National PACE Association, the typical PACE participant is very similar to the average nursing home resident. On average, she is 80 years old, has 7.9 medical conditions and is limited in approximately three activities of daily living. Yet despite a high level of care needs, more than 90% of PACE participants are able to continue to live in the community.

PACE for Rural Communities

One-fifth of America's elderly live in rural areas. Many of these elderly report worse health than their urban peers; are generally older; have more functional limitations; are more likely to live alone when over 75; and are at greater risk to live in nursing homes. PACE programs are an ideal fit for rural communities by relying on a team approach to health care that can cover large distances in multiple communities.

For additional information:

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