Governor Roy Cooper Proclaims September as PACE Month in North Carolina

PACE provides the services and supports to allow seniors to remain living at home

CARY, NC (September 8, 2017). Most seniors prefer to age in place, remaining in their current homes and communities. Family members want that for their loved ones as well, but often struggle to ensure the care and resources necessary for their safety and well-being.

As Governor Roy Cooper related Wednesday to members of the NC PACE (Programs of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly) Association, he was fortunate to have those resources as he and his brother cared for their parents, but he wondered how other families might cope. He recognized PACE for providing those services that help seniors remain in their home as long as possible, by proclaiming September as PACE MONTH in North Carolina.

PACE is a comprehensive, person-centered fully-integrated model of care delivered and coordinated by an interdisciplinary team of medical professionals, social workers and direct care staff. Each participant has an individual plan of care that takes into consideration their unique medical, dietary, behavioral, and other social determinants of health. Transportation, medication, physical therapy, socialization and all medically necessary services are provided at no additional cost.

“PACE is a unique model of care that looks at the whole person and how best to support that person to have better health, quality of life and satisfaction. It also works hand in hand with their caregivers, decreasing burnout and allowing them to continue working while having the peace of mind that their loved ones are receiving the care that they need,” said Linda Shaw, Executive Director of NC PACE Association.

North Carolina's first PACE program opened in 2008. Today, there are 11 programs with 12 centers serving over 2,000 participants. Since inception, PACE in North Carolina has served approximately 3,650 participants, along with their family members and other caregivers. Nationally there are 239 PACE centers serving over 40,000 PACE enrollees in 31 states. Every senior enrolled in PACE meets the requirements for nursing home care, yet 95% of PACE enrollees live in the community.
North Carolina PACE programs are celebrating with a variety of events and activities throughout the month of September. A calendar of events is available online.

North Carolina PACE Association serves as the credible voice and leader to advance PACE (Programs of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly), thereby transforming healthcare in North Carolina. Our mission is to support the development, expansion, success and quality of PACE programs across the state, so that every person who is eligible for PACE will have access to this service. For more information, visit www.ncpace.org.

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State of North Carolina
ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

PACE MONTH
2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, PACE (Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) addresses the needs of elderly and disabled adults age 55 or older, a population which is growing rapidly and significantly impacts health care costs in the United States; and

WHEREAS, PACE is a fully integrated model that provides comprehensive, highly coordinated services allowing older adults who meet state eligibility criteria for nursing home level of care to continue living in the community; and

WHEREAS, individuals enrolled in PACE receive all Medicare and Medicaid covered items and services, as well as additional supports which promote well-being and greater independence; and

WHEREAS, PACE programs assume full financial risk for all medical care and related services—including transportation, hospitalization, and long-term care—in return for capitated payments from Medicare and Medicaid, thereby controlling costs for the state while providing improved health outcomes and greater satisfaction for participants; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging and Dual Eligibles Advisory Committee recognize the value of PACE and recommend that PACE become more widely available; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina’s first PACE program opened in 2008; today, approximately 2,000 participants are served by 11 PACE programs in 12 sites across the state: Elderhaus, Wilmington; Piedmont Health SeniorCare, Burlington and Pittsboro; LIFE St. Joseph of the Pines, Fayetteville; PACE of the Triad, Greensboro; PACE@Home, Newton; Carolina SeniorCare, Lexington; PACE of the Southern Piedmont, Charlotte; Senior Community Care of NC, Durham; Senior Total Life Care, Gastonia; Staywell Senior Care, Asheboro; and CarePartners PACE, Asheville; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina PACE Association formed in 2011 to support the development, expansion, success, and quality of PACE programs throughout the state, and is now celebrating six years of advancing and transforming healthcare for the elderly in North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September, 2017, as “PACE MONTH” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this sixth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.

[Signature]
Governor