



August 2003

What is PACE?

PACE is the "Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly." It is based on a managed care model that was developed by OnLok Senior Services in San Francisco 25 years ago. PACE sites receive full capitation from both Medicare and Medicaid. PACE sites also provide the participants with ALL of their needed health care, medical care, and ancillary services in acute, subacute, institutional, and community settings. Each site has a multi-disciplinary team that directs and provides the care of the participant.

Who is Eligible?

To be eligible for PACE, participants must: 1) live in the service area of the PACE site, 2) qualify for Medicaid coverage under the institutional financial eligibility standards, 3) need an intermediate or skilled level of care, 4) be 55 or older, and 5) be willing to receive all of their care from PACE program providers. In addition, a participant must be able to remain safely in a community setting at the time of initial enrollment. Participants can disenroll but most choose to remain in the program until death.

How Does PACE Provide Services?

PACE sites are allowed to pool all of their resources to pay for whatever services the individual needs, including services not otherwise covered by Medicare or Medicaid. This flexibility enables the sites to be proactive in their efforts to improve the health status of participants.

Where Are Ohio's PACE Programs?

Ohio has two PACE sites. TriHealth SeniorLink is located in Cincinnati. It serves Hamilton County and certain zip codes in Warren, Butler, Clermont counties. Concordia Care is located in Cleveland Heights and serves all of Cuyahoga county.

How Did PACE Begin?

Federal Authority. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) originally approved demonstration waivers to allow replication of the model in 25 states. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 created PACE as an Optional State Plan Service for Medicaid and granted Medicare permanent status as a provider of PACE services.

What is the Current Status of the Project?

Ohio's Medicaid state plan includes PACE. Both of Ohio's PACE sites made the transition from demonstration waivers to full PACE Provider status on November 1, 2002. ODJFS has requested approval from CMS to increase the maximum participants per PACE site from 240 to 290 at any given time. ODJFS is considering further, budget neutral, expansion of the program through the addition of satellite sites by the existing PACE providers, or perhaps requesting proposals for new sites in other urban areas, if administrative resources are sufficient under the final State budget for SFY '04 and '05. ODJFS will decide whether to continue to administer the program directly, or delegate some or all of the administration to the Ohio Department of Aging, as authorized in H.B. 95.