

## Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)

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### Background:

- The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 established the PACE model for both Medicaid and Medicare programs.
- PACE providers receive a set amount of money on a monthly basis for each eligible Medicare and Medicaid enrollee to provide patient-centered and coordinated care to frail elderly individuals living in the community.
- PACE has been approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) as an evidenced based model of care.

### What is PACE?

PACE programs provide a comprehensive service delivery system which includes all needed preventive, primary, acute and long term care services so that individuals can continue living in the community. The PACE program becomes the sole source of services for Medicare and Medicaid eligible enrollees. For most participants, the comprehensive service package permits them to continue living at home while receiving services. Providers assume full financial risk for participants' care without limits on amount, duration, or scope of services.

### Who Can Participate?

Participants must:

- Be a Medicare or Medicaid enrollee who is age 55 or older,
- Be eligible for nursing home level of care, and
- Live in a PACE service area.

### PACE Services:

The emphasis of the PACE program is on enabling participants to remain in their community and enhancing their quality of life. A team of health care professionals from different disciplines assesses each participant's needs, develops a care plan, and delivers all services (including acute care and nursing facility services if necessary). Minimum services that must be provided in the PACE center include primary care services, social services, restorative therapies, personal care and supportive services, nutritional counseling, recreational therapy, and meals. The services are provided primarily in an adult health center, supplemented by in-home and referral services in accordance with a participant's needs. PACE is a voluntary program.

### Current Status of PACE:

The North Dakota Medicaid program is working with Northland Healthcare Alliance to develop the PACE program in the state. There will be three PACE sites in North Dakota: Bismarck, Dickinson, and Garrison. The Bismarck PACE program will be able to serve 145 enrollees. The Dickinson and Garrison facilities will be able to serve 25 enrollees at each site. The PACE program is expected to become available in North Dakota in the spring of 2008.

For information about North Dakota's efforts, contact the N.D. Department of Human Services Medical Services Division at 701.328.2321.