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Huron Valley PACE Celebrates National PACE Month

'Delivering Independence' is the theme, celebrating the success of Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly in helping seniors remain in their community



Huron Valley PACE – 2940 Ellsworth Rd., Ypsilanti, MI 48197

National PACE Month will be celebrated for the first time this September. The observance recognizes the work of Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE®), which coordinate and provide all needed preventive, primary, acute and long-term care services so older adults can continue living at home in their community.

The PACE model of care is centered on 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 fully integrated, provider-based model of care revolves around an interdisciplinary team of doctors, nurses, therapists, social workers, dietitians, drivers and others who provide direct care and services to meet the individual needs of program participants.

The theme of the first National PACE Month is “Delivering Independence,” celebrating the role of PACE drivers in promoting independence for seniors.

“Only in a fully integrated model of care like PACE could transportation play such an important role in keeping seniors with long-term needs living safely in the community,” said Shawn Bloom, president and CEO of the National PACE Association (NPA). “PACE drivers don’t just offer curb-to-curb transportation. They enter the enrollee’s home to help them to the van and are trained to look for changes in the home environment or in the level of assistance an enrollee needs. By identifying changes quickly, the PACE program can plan treatments and interventions immediately before larger issues surface.”

Huron Valley PACE, established by United Methodist Retirement Communities, serves seniors in Washtenaw County, as well as parts of Wayne, Oakland, Livingston, and Monroe Counties.

Huron Valley PACE has served the community since 2014, helping seniors to live in the community for as long as possible. Nationally, there are 239 PACE centers serving more than 40,000 PACE participants in 31 states.

“Since opening in 2014, Huron Valley PACE has grown from seven initial participants to over 160 today. As the population of older adults continues to grow, it is critical that we increase access to the highly coordinated and comprehensive services PACE offers, helping them to live independently in their own homes and communities,” said Rick Bluhm, Executive Director of Huron Valley PACE.

“Every senior enrolled in PACE meets the requirements for nursing home care, yet 95 percent of PACE enrollees live in the community,” said Bloom. “PACE is an innovative model that continues to adapt and change as public policy, technology, and even the seniors who we serve change. PACE is successful because it is based on building relationships between enrollees and the members of the PACE interdisciplinary team.”

Event Details

Who: Huron Valley PACE

What: National PACE Month – Open House

Where: 2940 Ellsworth Rd., Ypsilanti, MI 48197 – PH#: 734-572-5777

When: Thursday, September 14, 2017 – beginning at 3:30pm

Come take a tour, enjoy food, and get an inside look at PACE Transportation! For more information visit www.HuronValleyPACE.org.

The National PACE Association works to advance the efforts of Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE®). Congress recently passed bipartisan legislation to adapt the PACE model to serve other high-cost, high-need individuals who could benefit from highly coordinated personalized care. Policy-makers see a key role for PACE in serving younger individuals with physical or mental disabilities or those with multiple chronic conditions. For more information, visit the [NPA website](#).

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*Building on a foundation of more than 110 years of service, **United Methodist Retirement Communities** is a faith-based, non-profit organization that promotes the wellness, dignity and independence of older adults, by providing high quality, innovative and compassionate senior residential care services across Southeast Michigan. umrc.com | [734.433.1000](tel:734.433.1000)*