



[Below are some elements and suggestions you can use to create your own press release. If you need assistance, please contact [Robert Greenwood](#). Replace “ABC PACE” with the name of your PACE organization and “Springfield” with the name of your community.]

Your Contact Information

ABC PACE Celebrates National PACE Month

Springfield’s ABC PACE Provides Care and Services for Vulnerable Seniors in the Community

ABC PACE, located in Springfield, is celebrating National PACE Month in September. The National PACE Association (NPA) has designated September as National PACE Month as an opportunity to raise awareness and celebrate the difference PACE makes in the lives of seniors enrolled in PACE, their families and their communities. Across the nation, PACE organizations care for 95 percent of enrollees in the community rather than in a nursing home.

“The PACE program has allowed ABC PACE to bring to Springfield a model of care that provides older adults with long-term care needs and their families the most freedom to live their lives in the community,” said Judy Smith, executive director of ABC PACE.

In order to enroll in PACE, a person must be age 55 or over, live in the service area of the PACE organization, meet clinical eligibility requirements for nursing home placement, and be able to live safely in the community with the support of the PACE organization.

Around the country, PACE is a quickly growing care model that has been in operation for more than 30 years. A total of 134 organizations operate 264 PACE centers in 31 states. Currently, more than 51,000 individuals are enrolled in the program.

“Caring for older individuals with multiple health care needs has been particularly challenging during this pandemic,” said Shawn Bloom, NPA president and CEO. “To keep participants and staff as safe as possible, the PACE model of care has been adapted from bringing participants into a PACE center several times a week to providing services in the home. The resilience of the model in the face of this pandemic has been inspiring.”

Provide examples of changes your organization has made in response to the pandemic. For example:

During the pandemic, ABC PACE has adapted the PACE model of care in a number of ways to increase the safety of participants and staff. The program provides additional support and training for family caregivers when they are available to provide care for loved ones. ABC PACE utilizes telemedicine whenever possible with participants, from telephone calls to specialized technology in the home. Our staff has worked to find new



ways to engage participants who often miss their friends at the PACE center. The clinic at the PACE center has remained open to serve participants by appointment.

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The National PACE Association (NPA) works to advance the efforts of PACE programs, which coordinate and provide preventive, primary, acute and long-term care services so older individuals can continue living in the 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. For more information, visit www.NPAonline.org and follow [@TweetNPA](https://twitter.com/TweetNPA).

Note to reporters: Contact [Robert Greenwood](#) at the National PACE Association for more information about Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE®).