The Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) benefits the State of California, its seniors, and their families by offering a proven, cost-effective, and high-quality alternative to nursing home placement for frail seniors who wish to live in the community.

PACE organizations currently serve 10,090 participants through 50 PACE Centers and alternative care sites in 15 counties, including Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Humboldt, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus.

PACE is unique among care programs serving older adults in that it provides all services needed by frail seniors to enable them to live safely in the community, including all acute care and long-term supports and services.

PACE serves a very diverse population. The average participant in California is 77 years old, but many are in their 80s and 90s. A high percentage have Alzheimer’s or related dementia. Almost 2/3 of participants speak a language other than English as their primary language.

Despite serving a very frail nursing home-eligible senior population, only three percent of participants are living in nursing homes at any given time. More than 90 percent say they are very satisfied with PACE.

PACE also provides tremendous fiscal benefits to the State of California, with savings of up to $69 million per year. PACE costs 30-40 percent less than institutional care for the same types of beneficiaries.

Former CMS Administrator Andy Slavitt has referred to PACE as a “glimpse into the future.” The federal PACE Innovation Act gives CMS authority to test adaptations of the PACE model of care with new populations, including younger adults with disabilities and older adults at risk of nursing home placement.

PACE was first developed in the 1980s in California (by On Lok in San Francisco) and has grown nationally to include 131 programs in 31 states serving approximately 54,000 participants.

CalPACE, the California PACE Association, is a 501 (c)(6) association dedicated to the expansion of comprehensive health care services to the frail elderly through the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).