

The Coalition Mission

To improve lives through human connection, compassion and holistic, integrated care that nurtures the health and well-being of individuals & communities

TRANSFORMING LIVES AND COMMUNITY

A Brighter Future for Frail, Older Residents

The State of Maryland is preparing to expand PACE* services to communities in and around Baltimore. Catholic Charities is working with Edenbridge Health, an innovative leader in the PACE world, to bring a new PACE program to older adults and their families in West Baltimore City/Baltimore County.

Our two organizations are building a broad coalition of supporters who will together submit an application for a new PACE program in Maryland. We are excited to speak with a range of organizations who may be interested in joining this coalition – **the West Baltimore PACE Community Coalition** – including aging and community service organizations, neighborhood associations, health services providers and religious institutions – with a shared goal of making a significant, positive contribution to improve the lives of older adults in West Baltimore City/Baltimore County.

The Challenge

Aging often brings impairment and isolation, and many families face the difficult choice of whether to move a frail, elderly loved one to a nursing home or to attempt to continue providing care at home. This decision has a profound impact not only on each older person but also their family and caregivers — especially in vulnerable communities. The necessary support for these older adults and caregivers is rarely found in one place; as a result, care and support is typically cobbled together from multiple, separate organizations. The resulting patchwork of services is neither sufficient nor coordinated to cover the wide range of social and health care needs experienced by frail, older adults.

The experience of the older adult and family, in these situations, is stressful, confusing and exhausting – and, in the end, they are still not getting what they need, nor what they want. These challenges, experienced by millions of older adults every year, and responsible for an increasing burden on public budgets and families in our country, will only become more pronounced in the coming years as our population ages.

* **PACE (The Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly)** offers a solution for community members as they age. PACE is a nationally recognized caregiving model for very frail older adults of low-income who wish to remain at home, rather than moving into a nursing home for long-term care. PACE participants receive extensive social and medical services, as well as access to an adult day health center where a team of dedicated geriatric professionals coordinates person-centered care and services. Enrollees do not have any out of pocket expense because PACE services are financed by Medicare and Medicaid — this combined revenue flow allows PACE providers flexibility to arrange a wide range of services to meet the needs of those served.

PACE in West Baltimore City/Baltimore County

The West Baltimore PACE Community Coalition

Catholic Charities and Edenbridge bring complementary capabilities to the establishment of a PACE program; more importantly, we share a strong mission: to improve lives through human connection, compassion, and holistic, integrated care that nurtures the well-being of individuals and communities.



CHERISHING THE DIVINE WITHIN ALL

Catholic Charities is the largest human services organization in Maryland, rooted in Baltimore City. The Jenkins Senior Living Community includes St. Elizabeth Rehabilitation & Nursing Center; Caritas House Assisted Living; St. Ann Adult Day Services and DePaul House & St. Joachim House, two of the 24 affordable, supportive Catholic Charities Senior Communities in Maryland. Also on the west-side, the multi-faceted and multi-generational presence of Catholic Charities includes workforce development initiatives, Behavioral Health in schools, Head Start and Safe Streets violence interruption, with a mission to improve lives and communities.



Edenbridge Health is an organization that uniquely focuses on building and running PACE programs. Founded in 2016, Edenbridge is opening its first PACE program in Fall 2021, in northern Virginia. Recently, Edenbridge was awarded the right to build the first PACE program ever in Washington, DC. The Edenbridge mission is to be the partner of choice for communities that want to form a social contract with their seniors to allow them to live dignified, meaningful lives in the community.



Local Health and Aging Service Partners are essential to providing quality, integrated services for PACE participants. We are committed to engaging with the best local health service and community partners in order to offer the full range of services needed to keep frail older adults living safely in the community and leading dignified, meaningful lives. We are interested in exploring collaborative opportunities with additional local service organizations in Baltimore that would build upon the foundation of the West Baltimore PACE Community Coalition.

Each of our organizations believe that a well-functioning PACE program would serve our missions by improving the health and overall well-being of older adults. We also recognize the role that PACE plays in stabilizing communities; supporting and preserving the relationship of older adults with the place they call home also allows for intergenerational transfer of real estate, and opportunity, for entire families in West Baltimore City/Baltimore County.

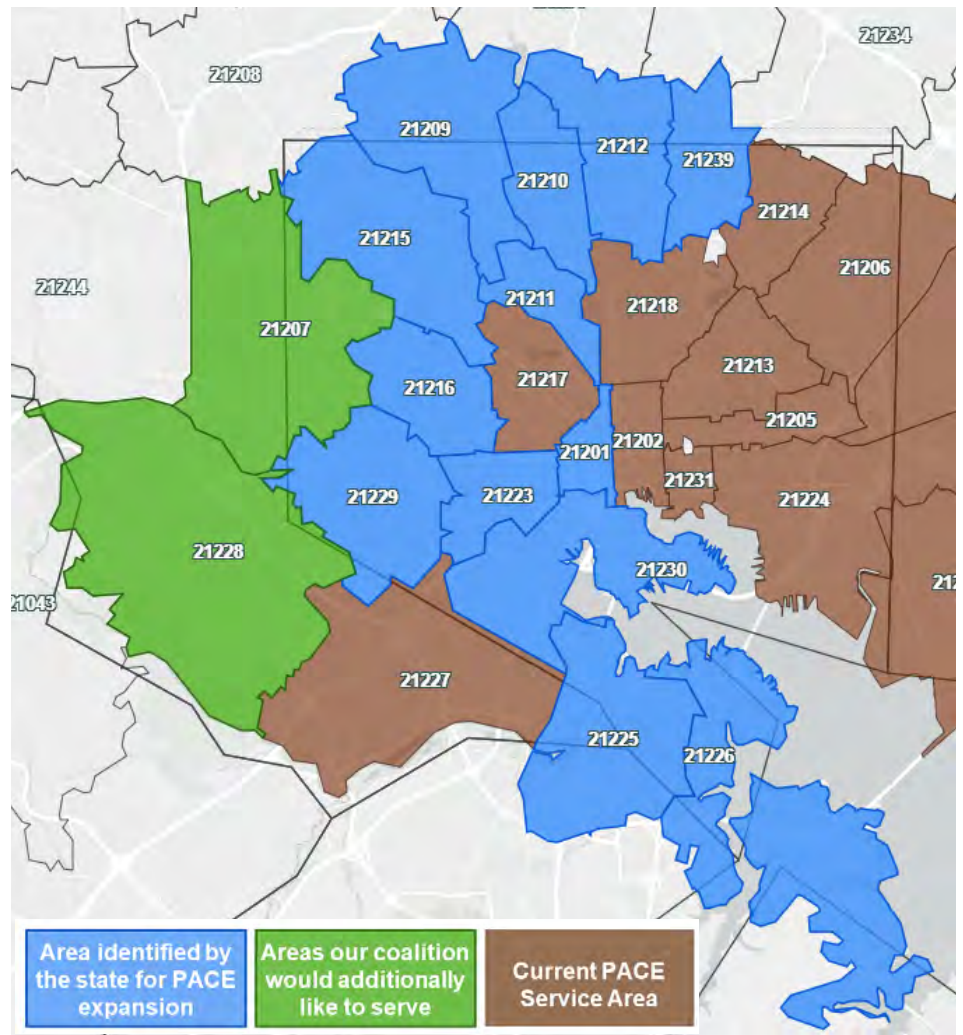
Why West Baltimore City/Baltimore County?

West Baltimore City/Baltimore County is uniquely positioned and deserving of a new PACE program.

For the past 20 years, Baltimore's (and Maryland's) only PACE program has been situated on the east side of the city - and available primarily to residents living east of I-83. We estimate there are 4,000+ older adults who are eligible for PACE living in neighborhoods on the west side of Baltimore and in the nearby communities of Baltimore County; each of these individuals (and their families) deserves the same opportunity to take advantage of PACE as residents living in other areas of the city.

In September 2021, the Maryland Department of Health requested proposals for new PACE programs. Three new programs will be established in Maryland, including one in the Baltimore area. To get to know Baltimore best, over the past six months, Edenbridge has

heard from over 50 community service, health service, religious, philanthropic and neighborhood leaders to gather their thoughts; all agree that there is a great need and desire to bring innovative, quality care and supports to the older adults of West Baltimore City/Baltimore County. We – the West Baltimore PACE Community Coalition – have joined together to do just that.



How You Can Help

The West Baltimore PACE Community Coalition understands the importance of community, and PACE is designed to help older adults remain right at home, in their community; this coalition will intentionally nurture that relationship so older adults and entire communities thrive. We are growing this coalition of trusted, local, non-profit entities, interested in furthering the good work already begun.

We seek guidance and support from complementary health care and aging service organizations, older adult advocates, neighborhood groups and faith leaders. Together we aspire to broaden our current coalition into one that offers complementary quality services, has strong community support, and is well positioned to successfully bring a PACE program to West Baltimore City/Baltimore County.