



December 19, 2018

Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom
State Capitol, Suite 1114
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor-elect Newsom:

CalPACE, the California Association of Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), commends and congratulates you on your recent election to be the next Governor of California.

PACE organizations provide comprehensive health care and long-term services and supports to low-income seniors who qualify to be in nursing homes, to enable them to remain in the community for as long as possible. Our members currently provide and coordinate services through 40 care centers located in 12 counties in the state.

By carefully coordinating and integrating services, PACE reduces utilization of hospital and ER services and delays the onset of extended nursing home stays, as well as improving the longevity and quality of life of frail seniors. PACE is also cost-effective for the state. In 2017 the cost of providing PACE services was \$23 million less than it would have cost the state to care for their beneficiaries outside of PACE.

We hope you will include in your aging and LTSS priorities providing additional support for the innovative and successful home and community based programs like PACE. Two specific things that would assist PACE organizations are ensuring that Medi-Cal rates adequately fund the capital needed to build and upgrade care centers and the higher risks they take on in serving an exclusively high need population of nursing home eligible seniors, and streamlining the licensing and approval processes for new PACE centers.

CalPACE is also a member of and supports the goals and proposals of the California Aging and Disability Alliance (CADA) to begin to address and plan more thoughtfully for the future needs of California's growing population of seniors and persons with disabilities.

CalPACE specifically supports the steps that CADA has called for, for your first 100 days in office, to appoint a Long-Term Supports and Services (LTSS) Czar, fund a feasibility study on the creation of a new long-term supports and services benefit that would reduce out of pocket costs and impoverishment associated with LTSS costs, and to develop a plan of action and LTSS strategy for all Californians.

We look forward to working with your administration on solutions to meet these important needs of California's seniors and persons with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Linda Trowbridge
Chair and CEO, Center for Elders' Independence

AltaMed PACE
Los Angeles, CA

Brandman Centers
for Senior Care
Reseda

CalOptima PACE
Orange County

Center for Elders'
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Oakland

Fresno PACE
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