

## Buckeye PACE Holds Ribbon-Cutting Ceremonies to Celebrate PACE Program's Arrival in Northeast Ohio

New PACE programs set to open on August 1, bringing high-quality in-center and at-home care to Northeast Ohioans who want to age at home

**YOUNGSTOWN, OH** – Buckeye PACE—a leading PACE provider to rural and Appalachian communities in the state—is proud to announce the launch of three new centers in Mahoning, Trumbull, and Ashtabula, Ohio. Buckeye PACE's opening on August 1 will provide older adults in Mahoning, Trumbull, Ashtabula, and surrounding counties access to the <a href="Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)">Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)</a>, which allows older adults eligible for both Medicare & Medicaid to receive medical and support services at no cost.

To celebrate the program's arrival in Northeast Ohio, Buckeye PACE hosted ribbon-cutting ceremonies welcoming local officials, care partners, and the public to tour the day centers. Older adults currently in the intake process served as ribbon cutters at the event. State Representative Sarah Fowler Arthur, State Representative David Thomas, State Representative Bill Roemer as well as staff from the offices of U.S. Senator Jon Husted, U.S. Senator Bernie Moreno, U.S. Representative Michael Rulli, and the Ohio Department of Aging joined the events.

"We're thrilled to bring the innovative, cost-effective PACE program to Northeast Ohio," said Craig Worland, Chief Operating Officer of One Senior Care. "With the opening of this new program, we're making a promise to Northeast Ohioans that they will have the resources and support they need to remain in their homes and communities, where they most want to be as they age."

As a partner of <u>One Senior Care</u>, a leader in PACE programs across the country, Buckeye PACE is well-equipped to bring the benefits of the PACE program to Ohio's older adults, who face higher mortality rates across <u>several leading causes of death</u>, including diabetes, heart disease, and vascular disease. At the same time, access to preventative care is currently limited due to a <u>shortage</u> of primary, specialty, dental, and mental health providers.

Notably, <u>studies have also shown</u> that PACE services can help older adults manage chronic diseases and can lower mortality rates for participants. PACE—already operating in 33 states and the District of Columbia—serves individuals aged 55 and older. Through PACE, each

participant works with an interdisciplinary team of medical professionals and support staff to manage existing health conditions and create a personalized care plan. Participants also have access to a wide spectrum of in-center and at-home services including personalized medical care, prescription drug assistance, transportation, social activities, and nursing care.

"Interest in personalized at-home and in-center care is only growing amongst Ohioans and across the country," said Betty Mikovich, Chief Nursing Officer at One Senior Care. "The comprehensive medical and social services provided through Buckeye PACE will help us ensure that our older community members receive the support they need to thrive as they age."

###