

# CMS 2010 Regional PACE Conference

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## TRANSCRIPT

### Closing Remarks

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...is to summarize the day. And my first question is, "Is it still Tuesday?" because we've done a lot today. But before we talk about that, I have to finish the rest of the story, right? Two sons of NBA players – I coached them. I didn't coach them for a whole season. They were fifth graders. My husband was activated to Desert Storm. He was the basketball coach, and he had a backup coach. And we're at the game Saturday morning in the school gym. Everybody's there. There's about five games going on at the same time, you know, because of all these little kids; and the coach doesn't show up.

And I keep going, "Where's Craig? Where's Craig?" And there's no Craig. And I go, "I can't do this." And all the parents are going, "Well, you're the coach's wife; you've got to." And I go, "But I..." you know, there was no kind of osmosis or anything else that came through my brain when he left. I mean, I'm the mom.

And so out there on the floor is one young man named Austin Ainge, and his dad is Danny Ainge. And Danny played for the Portland Trail Blazers. And Danny played baseball for those of you that didn't know that. He played for the Blue Jays, the Toronto Blue Jays. That was before all of his recent fame in Boston. And his son is in fifth grade with my son who's in fifth grade. And also out there is Kyle Steele, and his dad was Larry Steele. He also played for the Trail Blazers. They haven't figured out yet – this was in Portland, Oregon.

And so, I'm thinking, you know, I used to play basketball in the backyard with my brothers; but I can't coach these. And those two dads are in the audience. So I go over and I go, "Larry? Danny?" And they go, "We can't coach it. That would be unfair for the other team to have us out there coaching. You can do fine. You can do fine." So anyway, long story short is, we won the game. And that's my claim to fame. It was a great story. Danny Ainge and Larry Steele both played for the Portland Trail Blazers at the time, and the rest of the story is history.

But I wanted to – so all fun aside, I didn't know that I had a ukulele player on my staff. I didn't know I had a thimble collector. And you guys probably wonder, "Who in the world hired those guys?" And God help the woman who has to manage them – that would be me. I'm the manager of Medicare Advantage in Boston, and those two guys are on my staff. And it's fun. But we take the PACE program very seriously. We're delighted that all of you came; and on behalf of Boston, New York and Philadelphia regions, I can't thank you enough for being here today.

I think we started the day early with Mr. McCaslin giving us a brief overview of our current administrator's vision and the triple aim. We moved on into the next presentation – I had to write down that notes here – Karen giving us her insights as far as where we come from policy



and the integrated care center and the center for innovation. And I like the fact that she questioned us. Hopefully that made some of us be challenged to think about, Is PACE where it's at? Where is PACE going? What could change with healthcare reform?

We had some basic overviews today of important facts such as care planning, and we also had an update on the Level 2 reporting requirements. I think the difficult thing in a program like this is to try to meet the needs of the whole audience because we have people that are new to PACE, and we have people that have been in PACE for a long, long time and their claim to fame is that they've been around for 15 years or they were a demo site. But hopefully all of us can take away something today, either an affirmation of what we're doing is the right thing or maybe it peaked our interest to try something when we go back to our organizations or maybe it made us think more about, wow, are we doing it right? Maybe we should try one of these Best Practices. And I think that's the beauty of bringing us all together at one time in one place.

Sure we can send out HPMS memos. We can have conference calls. But really the dynamics of bringing people together in person and having all kinds of organizations to be able to come together and ask questions and challenge each other and share ideas is really one of the great advantages of a program like this.

So again, I want to thank you all for coming, attending our program, being the PACE organizations out there that deliver care to our beneficiaries, our participants, our patients, our family members, our community members. And I think that the next part of the day – because we're not done yet – is to join us in our networking session, to engage in conversations, and go the next step of what it is that you can take away from our program, and to rest up tonight because we have another full day tomorrow. So thank you again very much.