



CMS 2012 Tri-Regional PACE CONFERENCE

Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly

Philadelphia | March 2012



TRANSCRIPT

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Tamara McCloy, Health Plans Branch Manager, CMS

James B. McCaslin, FACHE, Associate Regional Administrator, CMHPO, CMS

Welcome everyone. I'm going to leave the – the better welcome to my Associate Regional Administrator, Jim McCaslin. I just wanted to say welcome back to a lot of folks that have joined us in the past, and we are looking forward to two terrific days. We have a packed agenda. And hopefully when you're not enjoying our conference, there's lots of stuff going on in town, we're right downtown. The flower show is going on. If you get a chance, go enjoy that. The theaters are right next door. So I hope you all enjoy yourselves while you're in our town here.

And without any further ado, I'm going to go ahead and turn this over to our Associate Regional Administrator, Mr. Jim McCaslin, for some opening remarks. Jim.

Thank you, Tammy. Good morning and on behalf of the Boston, New York and Philadelphia Regional Offices of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, I would like to welcome you to the CMS Tri-Regional PACE Conference. And we appreciate your attendance and the efforts you've expended to get here.

It seems before I move on I need to offer my condolences to the Boston Regional Office and the PACE plans for your performance in the Super Bowl and congratulate our colleagues from New York on their wonderful win. So – and of course Philadelphia's role in that was to help make these other teams look better so they could get to the Super Bowl. Every sport needs some cannon fodder, and that seems to be Philadelphia's lot in life these days.

If you don't know this, please be advised that there are currently 86 approved PACE organizations in the country and 16 more applications pending. Last time I was here I mentioned to the audience that there were 70, so it's obvious that the PACE program throughout the country is growing and expanding by leaps and bounds. Of these 86 approved PACE organizations, over half of them are located within the Boston, New York and Philadelphia Regional Offices and are still growing. All three regions are currently in the process of reviewing new applications. My sense is this is something like the race to the moon and that we have Pennsylvania way out front and New Jersey is not going to be outdone by Pennsylvania and Virginia is not going to let that happen either, so we have all these states vying for dominance in the PACE plans.

Our goals for this conference are to provide you with reinforcement and clarity of CMS's requirements for the PACE program as well as to have some of your colleagues share their experiences as they try to meet those requirements and adjust to new technologies. We will also be joined today by two speakers from the Department of Justice and our local Center for Advocacy for Rights and Interests of the Elderly, called CARIE,

who are going to do a presentation on elder abuse. We hope that you'll find this conference informative, interactive, and we've planned lecture-style presentations as well as panel discussions and demonstrations. Please note that on your agenda at the end of the day, the sessions, there will be a networking event. We look forward to having the opportunity to meet and greet all of you in a casual and a relaxed environment.

Before I step down I'd like to send out a special shout out to the people who have made this all possible. You've met Tammy, and believe it or not without her leadership in this endeavor, this event would not take place. Tammy McCloy, the Manager of the Health Plans branch here in Philadelphia. Anne Marie Anderson, please – Anne Marie, I can't see because the lights are in my eyes. I hope she's here. Peggy Kosherzenko, Mike Leboe, M.J. Spuhler, Edwina Pearce, and Dick Singer. Please raise your hands so those who want to criticize the conference can seek you out and give you all their comments.

Welcome, again, and I hope you enjoy the rest of your day here and tomorrow as well.