Mount Rogers PACE Center Opens for Participants

July 26, 2022 – MARION, VA – The Mount Rogers PACE Center is opening its doors on Aug. 1 to the first program participants. A Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) provides comprehensive care that meets all the health and social needs of an individual enrolled in the program. Located in the former Marion Police Department building at 555 South Main Street, the new PACE Center houses a medical clinic, physical and occupational therapy areas, as well as a spacious day room for participants to come and enjoy meals, activities and socializing with other older adults.

“They encourage us to get out and go,” said Pricey, an AllCARE for Seniors participant. “They give us the will to do it. They just took me right under their wing and helped me so much. This is my home, my second home. I call it my home away from home.”

Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens (AASC), the parent company of Mount Rogers PACE, has operated the AllCARE for Seniors PACE program for 14 years. PACE is a long-term care solution for individuals who need help taking care of themselves but want to remain in their own homes. PACE provides primary medical and specialty care, medications, therapy, recreation and social events, meals, transportation and more.

“PACE is an innovative delivery model of care that allows program participants age 55 and older who qualify for nursing home level of care to remain at home and live in their communities as long as it is safely possible,” said chief financial officer Brian Beck. “Our sister area agency on aging, District Three Governmental Cooperative, will continue to provide all aging services and will be an important community partner.”

The team approach to care includes a doctor, nurses, home care coordinator, social worker, dietitian, therapists, pharmacist and others. Another major component of PACE is transportation. This allows individuals to come to the adult day center where they enjoy activities and socializing and they are also transported to any specialty medical appointments.

“We have already received a lot of support from the local medical community, departments of social service and the public for the PACE program,” said AASC executive director Regina Sayers. “PACE is so beneficial to participants because they receive all their health care and social needs through one provider. This allows for close monitoring by professionals who know them so well that slight changes in their health status or mood can be immediately addressed.”

Aging is not a choice; but aging well is. The PACE program does just that – it allows seniors to stay independent by helping to improve their health and quality of life.

“I came to PACE in a wheelchair, and they helped save my life,” said Pricey.

For more information about PACE or to provide a referral, call 276-781-9050.