Draft Letter to State Administering Agency

The Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) is a proven, provider-based, model integrating care and financing for duals needing long-term services and supports (LTSS). For more than [x] years, [PACE program name] has served high-need, frail individuals in our state, allowing them to live in their homes and avoid costly nursing home placements.

We appreciate your support for PACE and your commitment to ensuring that PACE is maintained and supported as part of the care continuum for [state name]’s seniors. As the state explores additions to this care continuum such as [the financial alignment demonstrations/Managed LTSS/Medicaid Managed Care], we urge you to implement a range of important consumer protections -- especially for individuals with LTSS needs -- and that new programs are introduced in a way that assures that individuals with LTSS needs can access PACE.

To that end, attached please find sample policies and procedures related to options counseling and plan enrollment for people with LTSS needs. Recognizing the importance of applying these policies and procedures to the financial alignment demonstrations, Appendix A of the attachment presents model language that could be incorporated into state policies. These recommendations are adapted from the Administration on Community Living’s Draft National Standards for options counseling, as well as other state options counseling policies.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these recommendations and will contact your office to arrange a mutually convenient time. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of these challenging issues and we look forward to working with you.