St. Paul’s PACE – Roving Clinic 2.0

Bringing the Clinic to Seniors

Until recently, PACE medical assessments and clinical treatments occurred in each of our PACE locations around San Diego. However, with the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor’s mandatory stay-at-home-order, the care team at St. Paul's PACE improvised by launching the “PACE Roving Clinic” to bring healthcare services directly to the homes of PACE participants.

The care team installed diagnostic equipment in a small van and put up a curtain for participant privacy. The roving clinic, operating out of PACE Reasner in downtown San Diego, visits up to ten participants a day, five days a week. Greeting PACE participants curbside, licensed physicians or nurses provide many of the medical services a participant would receive in the centers.

The PACE Roving Clinic has proven to be a very valuable asset to our senior care team. Infection control is a huge challenge at our PACE centers, especially during flu season, due to the frailty of our seniors and their sensitivity to infections. Conversely, seniors infected with the flu or some other virus put other seniors and staff at risk in the clinic. A roving clinic provides a more ideal approach to serving the needs of all seniors without putting others at risk.

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No other PACE provider operating in the state has attempted to integrate this innovative service delivery model into their program. Having piloted the PACE Roving Clinic as a creative and necessary response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the PACE care team is ready to set a new standard in the way we care for the elderly. For the next iteration of this delivery model, PACE Roving Clinic 2.0, we envision a more ideal arrangement featuring a wheelchair accessible van that is large enough to accommodate more state-of-the-art healthcare diagnostic equipment, while providing a more comfortable experience for frail seniors. Here are some of the services seniors will receive:

• Physical examinations (routine and acute)  
• Post hospital/emergency room evaluations  
• Wound care  
• Post-fall assessments  
• Medication management  
• Lab tests  
• Immunizations  
• EKGs  
• Catheter changes  
• Minor wound suturing  
• Ear lavage/irrigation  
• Joint injections  
• Health education  
• Referral to community resources

The PACE Roving Clinic 2.0 van customized with state-of-the art medical equipment will cost approximately $300,000. For this next iteration, St. Paul's PACE seeks one van to serve seniors enrolled in the program throughout San Diego County. With these roving clinics, St. Paul’s not only fulfills our vision of creating a world where seniors have options as to where and how they live while being responsive to our rapidly changing times. Please make your contribution today to this innovative program.

Contact Information

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