



Community Health Foundation Napa Valley  
Adult Day Health | PACE | Palliative Care | Hospice

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## **For Immediate Release**

### **Open House in Celebration of our Adult Day Health 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Formal Launch of PACE – Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly**

*September 21, 2023, Napa, CA — In celebration of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the launch of PACE, we are inviting our supporters, volunteers, sponsors, donors, and community members to a festive Open House on Tuesday, October 3 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tours of our facilities, old and new, will be available to the public and refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to this link: [alheimersnv.org/25](https://alheimersnv.org/25)*

When our Adult Day Health program opened its doors in 1998, there were two employees—a young, visionary social worker, and an enthusiastic nurse—and just one participant. Fast forward 25 years and both employees, Celine Regalia and Karen Proteau, are still with the organization and the first participant was still attending recently. On any given day, Ms. Proteau cares for the medical needs up to 70 participants—many of them senior and frail, as the program’s senior nurse. Ms. Regalia wears multiple hats in the organization and is Director of Operations for the recently launched PACE program.

The Adult Day Health program was introduced by then Executive Director, Sarah Gorodezky, who identified the need for a team-based, community care program focusing on adults dealing with chronic illnesses who were not eligible for hospice care. The program, still unique in Napa County, provides a holistic approach to wellness not only for the patient/participant, but also to their care partners, friends, and family members. Along with the therapeutic aspects of the program there is a strong emphasis on socialization, in line with current research showing the adverse health effects of loneliness and isolation.

A major marker in the development of the program was being designated Alzheimer’s Daycare Resource Center for Napa County in 1999. The State of California had noticed that people with Alzheimer’s or related dementia were at higher risk of institutionalization due to their diagnosis and supported community-based programs of care to allow this population receive care and remain at home. 25 years ago, about 25% of admissions had an Alzheimer’s diagnosis and today it’s closer to 65%, so the program has blossomed into a leading center for Alzheimer’s care.

In recent years, Adult Day Health has provided care for up to 200 participants in any given

year, with respite, caregiver support, and clinical education available to their immediate care partners. The program has also engaged with medical professionals locally to provide education and best practices trainings related to Alzheimer's and other serious illnesses. In 2019, the year prior to the COVID outbreak, 96% of our participants reported improved quality of life and 98% avoided premature nursing home placement.

“If you're looking at our organization,” said Celine Regalia, Operations Director, “we're not just serving people with low incomes. We're serving a lot of middle-class households who don't qualify for government programs like Medi-Cal but can't afford necessary in-home care for their loved ones. The Day Program provides a crucial therapeutic option for these families. And that's why we have the foundation. That's why we have sliding fee scales so that everybody can access our services.

The launch of PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) in March 2023 builds on the successes of the Adult Day Program.

Described by the Harvard Business Review, “The program offers patients (called “participants”) all their Medicare- and Medicaid-covered benefits, including primary care, adult day care, rehabilitative care, and meals at a local PACE center. PACE provides transportation and various in-home services and is the payer for medical care that it cannot offer internally, such as emergency room visits and hospital stays. PACE organizations are paid on a monthly, risk-adjusted, capitated basis by Medicare and Medicaid, meaning they are paid a set amount per month based, in part, on participants' medical complexity. PACE programs bear full financial risk for all care, and participants do not pay anything out of pocket.”

“We are proud to introduce PACE and our PACE team to our community, said Celine Regalia. “It's a high touch program that responds to very real needs in our community. Since we see the participants regularly, our team can really anticipate their needs and hopefully prevent some bad things from happening by getting in front of them rather than reacting to events. It's a model that will bring a higher quality of life to so many and it expands our unique Continuum of Care.”

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*Providence Community Health Foundation Napa Valley raises funds to support Providence Hospice Napa Valley, Providence Palliative Care Napa Valley, Providence Adult Day Health Napa Valley, and Providence PACE, in providing exceptional, community-based care and resources for those facing the transitions of aging, Alzheimer's disease and other serious illness, and end-of-life care. The Foundation also obtains philanthropic and other grant funding to support outreach programming to improve the health and wellbeing of the Napa County community.*

*Information about our programs is available at <https://CommunityHealthNapaValley.org>*

**MEDIA**

PACE Infographic

Photo: Celine Regalia

Photo: Day Program

Photo: PACE Team