VHQC Launches Project to Support Virginia PACE Centers, Improve Care for Patients

[Richmond, VA] – VHQC, a nonprofit health quality consulting company and the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for Virginia, has launched a quality initiative targeting PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) centers across Virginia. Through this project, VHQC will support PACE providers as they improve care and outcomes for the frail elderly so that they can stay in the community.

PACE is a proven model for delivering the full spectrum of community care to individuals age 55 and older who qualify for nursing home admission. Ninety percent of participants are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. PACE is responsible for meeting participants’ health care needs in all settings in which the participant resides and in which care is delivered.

VHQC will offer training and support to PACE providers to improve cardiac health, prevent pressure ulcers and falls, reduce unnecessary hospital readmissions, launch smoking cessation programs and implement other changes to improve care. Individual providers will share best practices with other PACE providers to ensure the rapid spread of improvement. The project is based on Medicare and Medicaid clinical quality measures and is being conducted with partners that include the National PACE Association.

“This project allows VHQC to expand its work as a QIO and make a meaningful impact on the lives of patients enrolled in PACE centers across Virginia. The program aligns with our mission to create solutions that make a measurable difference on individual and community health,” said VHQC President and CEO Donald A. Glozer, MHA, FACHE.

The project is funded by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the QIO program.

About VHQC

For nearly 30 years, VHQC has been leading the way to better healthcare for providers and other clients by offering expertise in quality improvement, utilization management, analytic services and health information technology support that improves patient outcomes — and often results in cost savings. VHQC serves as the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for Virginia and leads Virginia HIT (VHIT), the statewide health information technology regional extension center. For more information, please visit www.vhqc.org.