

# PARTICIPANT HIGHLIGHT:

## *Shannon's Story*



PACE Central Michigan is proud to celebrate the achievements of our participants. Today, we spotlight Shannon's remarkable journey. Shannon joined PACE in August 2022, bringing with her a story of resilience and recovery. Before coming to PACE, Shannon faced a life-altering challenge when she contracted COVID-19 and required intubation and ventilation, marking the beginning of a long recovery path. Following her hospital stay, she continued her recovery at a rehabilitation facility in Battle Creek, which was far from her home.

Shannon was having serious health complications from COVID-19 and had to go to the intensive care unit in the hospital. She was then moved to a skilled nursing facility three hours from home. Her husband said he drove hundreds of miles to visit her weekly. During this ordeal, Shannon's daughter started working for another PACE organization and thought it would be a great program for her mom. After our Enrollment team received the call from her husband, they got to work. They worked with four different organizations including transition teams and nursing facilities to get Shannon transferred to a nursing facility in Mt. Pleasant, close to her friends and family.

Eventually, Shannon was transported by PACE from the facility in Mt. Pleasant to her home for the pre-enrollment in-home assessment. At the in-home assessment, her family was waiting to greet her with signs and balloons. She was discharged home and officially started with PACE services after all her assessments were complete. At that time, she required maximum total assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs). She could not walk, transfer, or stand on her own. Shannon started with our therapy team and was extremely motivated to build her strength back.

Shannon progressed remarkably, being able to walk with a walker and regaining her independence with ADLs. She was able to use the bathroom and shower on her own and even began tackling instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs), like doing the dishes. By January 2024, she graduated from skilled occupational therapy. Shannon expressed that she is "amazed when other participants recognize my milestones" and that she "would recommend PACE to anyone!" She was especially excited to return to church, this was a priority for her. Today, she can confidently walk on her own, live at home, and engage in activities that bring her joy. The support from PACE has been transformative. She says, "Every department makes me feel like a princess."

Shannon is deeply grateful for the encouragement she received from staff who celebrated her milestones alongside her. With the guidance of the PACE team, Shannon always sets ambitious goals for herself and has achieved them, proving that with determination and support, she can overcome even the toughest challenges.



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