

# THE PATIENT'S NAVIGATOR

Fall, 2017

Access Now - a program of the Richmond Academy of Medicine



*Total number of patients  
seen since  
Access Now began*  
12,793



*Total current number  
of specialty care  
volunteers*  
895



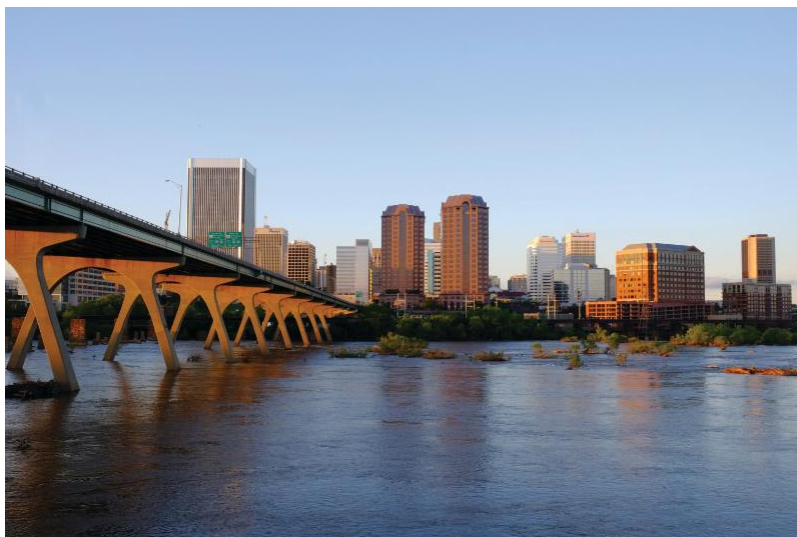
*Total reported value  
of donated care since  
Access Now began*  
\$39.5 million

## Access Now is Bridging the Gap for the Uninsured

Click [here](#) for the colorful and informative full-page ad in the Richmond Times-Dispatch to THANK YOU for your dedicated service to Access Now!

"During this time of thanks, **Access Now** wishes to express sincere gratitude for the **more than 880** caring and compassionate

physicians and healthcare staff who generously donate their medical services free of charge to patients in need. In 2016 alone, Access Now made **nearly 10,700** office and hospital appointments for **2,425 patients**.



"As thousands of Richmond-area residents still lack health insurance, Access Now - part of the **Richmond Academy of Medicine** - keeps partnering with area safety net clinics, coordinating access to vital specialty care donated by the physicians and staff of the outstanding medical practices listed below. If you know them, please say **THANK YOU!** Richmond is a healthier community because they care."

## GI Services: Demand is Great, Results Even Greater

Out of more than 40 kinds of specialty medical care services provided by Access Now volunteers, gastroenterology is the single most requested one. That's why in this season of giving thanks, we wish to express our gratitude for the truly amazing work of our three participating GI practices:

**Richmond Gastroenterology Associates, Gastrointestinal Specialists and Mitchell Endoscopy Center.**

Since Access Now's inception in 2008, this talented trio of practices has seen 3,260 patients and conducted 6,306 appointments. All told, they've donated free care valued at nearly \$4.2 million!

The high demand for GI specialists shows no sign of abating. Over the past three years, Access Now has received on average 581 GI referrals each year. This prompted us to ask all of our friends in GI about their experiences, which brought this reply from **Dr. Michael S. Manetas** of **Richmond Gastroenterology Associates.**

"I view my role as a physician as a calling to serve others; a way to provide assistance in a time of need," Dr. Manetas said.

"To that end, there is no better way to make a positive impact on our local community than to give of ourselves to those who are in need.

"Access Now allows me to provide this care to patients in the Greater Richmond community who have limited resources and are more vulnerable to health crises."

Asked why this is important for his practice, and how it has helped in scheduling referred patients, he said, "Access Now opens doors to patients in need and identifies a potentially large group of patients in our community that have not received any colon cancer screenings. Given

the lack of options for this vulnerable population, we provide screening colonoscopy with sedation to these patients at no cost. Any precancerous polyps are also removed during the colonoscopy."



*Dr. Michael S. Manetas*

He added, "Some of the most common diagnoses for patients seeking outpatient care are gastrointestinal complaints and symptoms. Their overall prevalence is high in our population and the demand for GI specialty care as a result is high as evidenced by the number of patients seen by local GI providers in the Access Now network.

"Whether it's obesity with fatty liver, GERD, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, IBS with constipation/diarrhea, dysphagia or cirrhosis/chronic liver disease, we are available to help these patients regardless of their ability to pay."

**Tammra Miller**

is an Access Now patient who's been treated at Richmond Gastroenterology Associates by **Dr. Robert S. Flynn**.



**Tammra Miller**

"I don't think I would be alive today without their help," she said. "Dr. Flynn saved my life. He is the true meaning of a doctor who truly cares about the well-being of his patients. He is a kind and compassionate and caring doctor who even called me at home just to check to see how I was doing. That makes me feel like I matter."

---

**The Gift of Giving at Amazon Smile & Kroger!**

**Looking for an easy way to help Access Now?** Why not do it this holiday season while you shop?

*Here's how it works!*



**AmazonSmile**

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- [Click here to support your charitable organization](#)

**Kroger Community Rewards**

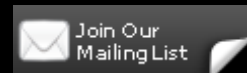
- Kroger Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy. All you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card!
- Click [here](#) to sign up.



Thank you for supporting us this holiday season!



Access Now  
 (804) 622-8145  
[accessnow@ramdocs.org](mailto:accessnow@ramdocs.org)  
<http://www.accessnow.ramdocs.org>



The Board of Directors and staff of Access Now thank the following for their generous financial support!

Altria Companies Employee Community Fund  
 The Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc.  
 Bon Secours Richmond Health System  
 HCA Virginia Health System  
 Overton and Katharine Dennis Foundation  
 RAMA Foundation  
 Richmond Memorial Health Foundation  
 Skin Surgery Center of Virginia  
 The Harrison Foundation  
 The Jenkins Foundation  
 The United Way of Greater Richmond and Petersburg  
 Tuckahoe Orthopaedic Associates  
 Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics and the Commonwealth of Virginia  
 Virginia Cancer Institute  
 Virginia Health Care Foundation  
 William T. Oxenham Foundation, Inc.

Access Now, 2821 Emerywood Pkwy, Ste 200, Richmond, VA 23294

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [accessnow@ramdocs.org](mailto:accessnow@ramdocs.org) in collaboration with



Try it free today