

# THE PATIENT'S NAVIGATOR

November 2022  
Access Now - a program of the Richmond Academy of Medicine

Visit our Website



Total number of patients seen since Access Now began  
**17,417**



Total current number of specialty care volunteers  
**1,152**



Total reported value of donated care since Access Now began  
**\$66.1 million**

## Access Now upgrades computer system for more efficient service

Exciting news! Access Now is implementing a new computer system this week.

The migrations of data from our old system to the new will take place on Nov. 17 and 18. Access Now staff will be training next week, Nov. 21-23, and we ask that you please be patient as we transition to our new system of processing patient referral information.



If there is an emergency, please call the office.

## Thanks to all our volunteer physicians



Did you see the Richmond Academy of Medicine's fall newsletter?

A full page was dedicated to thanking physicians and practices who volunteer with Access Now. [Read it here!](#)

We are so grateful for the support, and wanted to share it with the 2,100+ medical professionals, legislators and others who receive the newsletter.

## Meet Our Board: Stephen D. Rosenthal, Esq.

Stephen D. Rosenthal, Esq., is a longtime supporter and board member of Access Now.

A former Virginia Attorney General, he has decades of experience advising health care organizations. His passion now is helping to ensure that Central Virginians all have access to the quality health care they need.

**How does your "day job" relate to Access Now?**

As the Academy was establishing Access Now, I was asked to help with the legal side. I incorporated Access Now as a 501(c)(3) organization and have continuously provided legal services since the beginning of the organization. Now that I'm mostly retired, I can enjoy even more the pro bono work I do for Access Now.



**What made you decide to join the Access Now Board?**

I've been involved since its inception in 2008. Joining the Board was a natural step. The Board members and staff are very committed to Access Now, and I enjoy being a part of it.

**What do you think is the most important component of Access Now?**

Access Now is a unique program, and its sorely needed in our community. There are clinics that provide free basic medical care, but I don't know of any other programs like Access Now that assist patients in getting specialty care.

**How does Access Now enrich our community?**

So much of patients' medical needs today are specialty care. Access Now is committed to coordinating that care for everyone who needs it. Because of Access Now, patients can lead better lives.

**What else would you like to tell us?**

My father was a physician, so I've always been interested in medicine, even though I didn't study it myself. It's great to stay in touch with it through my involvement with Access Now and with another RAM program, Honoring Choices Virginia.

**Specialty volunteers needed**

Access Now depends on the generous support of physicians and other health care providers who donate their services so that every patient has a chance for the specialty care they so desperately need.



We're looking for:

- ENT
- Colorectal Surgery
- Rheumatology
- Ophthalmology and Optometry

Interested in volunteering with Access Now? Contact us at (804) 622-8146.

**'A new opportunity to live'**



Delia Rivera lost her mother to cervical cancer when she was only 3 years old. After her own diagnosis, Delia was afraid her own daughters would have to grow up without her.

She was treated by Drs. Joseph Diaz and Sarah Peterson. "They gave me excellent attention that I would not have been able to afford. I owe them my life," she says.

"Access Now and its doctors have given me a second chance to live and to not have my story repeat itself with my daughters," she says. "To me, it's like having extra time thanks to early detection and the intervention.

"I am thankful with every second of my life that my daughters have a mother who will be able to take care of them."

**Check your mailbox!**

Keep an eye on your snail mail the week of Thanksgiving for an important message from Access Now.

We'll update you on the important work we're doing and on our plans for 2023.



## Happy Holidays



Access Now wishes all our patients, clinics, donors and volunteers the happiest of holidays.

To give our fabulous staff some time off, we'll be closed Nov. 24-25 and also Dec. 23 - Jan. 2

[Make a donation](#)

### Access Now

(804)622-8145

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<http://www.AccessNowRVA.org>

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

- Bon Secours Richmond Health System
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- WaWa Foundation

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