

## Project Access: Healing the Working Poor

The Project Access Community Health Partnership has provided more than \$57.2 million in donated health care to uninsured Hamilton County residents since April 2004.

Remarkably, Project Access has a 33:1 return on investment — every \$1 spent to manage the program resulted in \$33 of donated coordinated care in 2009.

Project Access is a vital link that connects needy patients with needed care. Project Access makes it easier for its partners to coordinate care effectively.

Through Project Access, physicians, hospitals, and health centers work collaboratively to meet the health care needs of the uninsured.

In 2009, 600+ physicians have volunteered to provide care through Project Access. PA partners are listed in this report.

In 2008, Project Access added an orthopedic clinic that is conducted with Volunteers in Medicine.

In addition to providing critical access to care for low-income unin-

sured residents, Hamilton County's Project Access program has become a national model and

has provided technical assistance to start-up programs in seven states over the past five years.

### Project Access By the Numbers (April 2004-April 2010)

**\$57.2 Million** — Value of free health care provided to uninsured Hamilton County residents through Project Access since April 2004

**33:1 Return on Investment** — Each \$1 spent to run the program resulted in \$33 of donated care in 2009

**606** — Volunteer physicians currently participating

**8,510** — People screened to determine eligibility

**6,321** — Individuals who have received care through Project Access

**425** — Average number of patients enrolled in any given month

**3,868** — People who did not qualify for the program but were referred to other appropriate community resources and programs

**20% Now Insured** — The percentage of former PA patients who have obtained health insurance coverage

**42% Better Health** — Former patients who rated their health status as good, very good or excellent compared to 31% before care

**39% Fewer Physical Restrictions** — Former PA patients who said they now have little to no restrictions on physical activities compared to 26% prior to care



*Dr. Joseph Cofer, Project Access founder, was nominated by a patient as an outstanding physician for 2010 Doctors Day. His award was presented by Medical Society President Nita Shumaker, MD, (l) and Foundation President Phyllis Miller, MD.*

### Project Access Partners

Chattanooga-Hamilton County Medical Society  
Medical Foundation of Chattanooga  
Erlanger Health System  
Memorial Health Care System  
Parkridge Health System  
Siskin Hospital  
for Physical Rehabilitation  
Hamilton County Health Department  
Erlanger's Dodson Avenue and Southside Health Centers  
Memorial Health Centers  
Homeless Health Care Clinic  
Volunteers in Medicine Center  
Regional Health Council  
Rehab South  
UT College of Medicine, Chattanooga  
Chattanooga Homeless Coalition  
Ochs Center for Metropolitan Studies  
Chattanooga CARES  
Chattanooga Urban League

### Medical Foundation of Chattanooga

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Chattanooga, TN 37404  
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*"As the economy worsens and unemployment increases, Project Access is even more crucial for the community. We are asking the broader community to support Project Access with the same generosity shown by the physicians and other health care providers who are providing millions of dollars of free care."*

Rae Bond

### Promoting Community Health

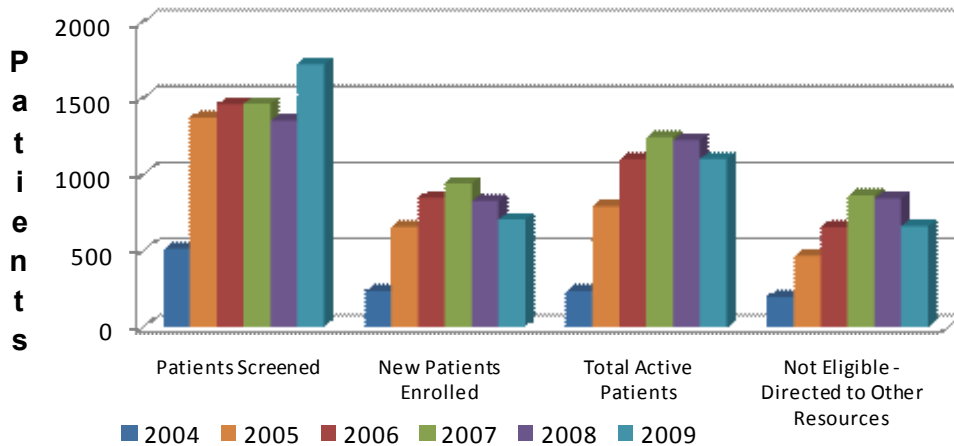
While Project Access is the Medical Foundation's signature program, the Foundation is active in many community health initiatives. The Medical Foundation:

- Encourages high school students to consider careers in medicine through the annual week-long **Youth Leadership Forum: Careers in Medicine**.
- Focuses media attention on problems faced by the uninsured and the impact on society by annual "**Cover the Uninsured Week**" events.
- **Promotes community health** through active participation in initiatives addressing the obesity crisis, infant mortality, domestic violence prevention,

community emergency planning and other health issues.

- **Provides leadership for a community-wide initiative to reduce infant mortality.**
- **Educates legislators about the uninsured healthcare crisis**, which resulted in a 2007 law to extend liability protection to volunteer physicians in organized charity care programs.
- **Provides technical assistance** to start Project Access in other cities, including Knoxville and Tri-Cities, Tennessee, and cities in Oregon, Washington, Pennsylvania, and Michigan.
- Presents at **national forums on community health initiatives** such as Project Access.

### Project Access Enrollment and Outreach 2004-2009



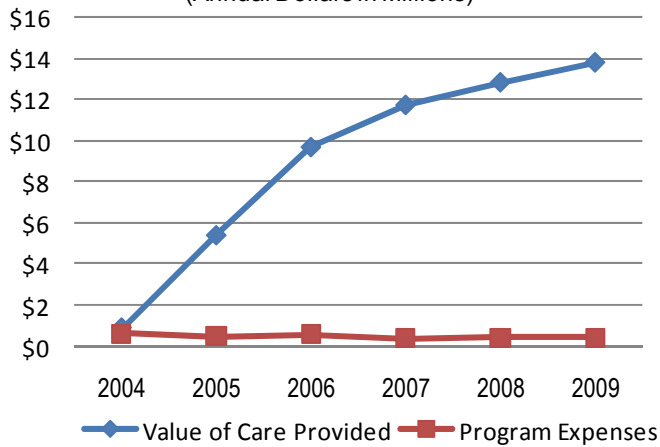
### The Economic Impact of Donated Healthcare

According to a regional economic analysis, charity services given away at hospitals and physician offices generate jobs and labor income. In order to provide these services, supplies must be purchased and utilities and staff must be paid. In terms of a ripple effect in the Hamilton County economy, donated care of \$32.4 million as of early 2008 generated:

Indirect Jobs - 91  
Induced Jobs - 30  
**Total Jobs - 121**

Indirect Labor Income - \$3,650,094  
Induced Labor Income - \$1,024,904  
**Total - \$4,674,998**

### Value of Services Increasing Annually; Program Costs Stable (Annual Dollars in Millions)



### One Patient's Story

"I was working, paying my bills, and getting by, but I didn't have insurance. I was also very sick. I didn't know where to turn ... it is the worst feeling to know you are sick and you don't have insurance. Yet Project Access was sent from God and saved my life."

*Wanda Sweatt, a long-time county schools cafeteria worker, was diagnosed with in 2008 with a virulent form of lung cancer. She received treatment through Project Access and today is cancer free.*

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### Medical Foundation/Project Access Consolidated Budget

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Grants, Designated Funds, and Contributions *	\$754,937	\$551,001	\$ 605,888	\$ 602,141	\$472,209*	\$538,293
Donated and In-kind Services (Hospital and Physician Care)	\$741,638	\$4,708,021	\$9,665,255	\$11,708,244	\$12,877,819	\$13,833,080
Total Revenue	\$1,496,575	\$5,259,022	\$10,271,143	\$12,310,385	\$13,353,058	\$14,371,373
Expenses	\$624,617	\$503,613	\$585,635	\$400,000	\$425,000	\$420,000

\* (includes all foundation funds, including those designated for 2010 expenses, funds designated for specific initiatives, and designated reserve funds.)

### How to Support Project Access and the Foundation

Project Access needs your support to continue to provide coordinated health care services to the uninsured. Contributions to Project Access or to other Medical Foundation of Chattanooga Programs are tax-deductible. Your tax-deductible contribution can be sent to:

**Medical Foundation of Chattanooga**  
1917 East Third Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37404