



*Because Everyone  
Deserves Access to  
Quality Healthcare...*

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Whether you are a physician, nurse, administrator, community advocate, or just a caring citizen of Buncombe County, we need your support. Contributions can be made through the donation of professional services, tax-deductible monetary gifts, assisting with or participating in fundraising events, or simply by helping to raise community awareness. Every contribution will help BCMS Foundation's Project Access continue to make giant strides in improving the health of Buncombe County.

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PROJECT  
ACCESS

BUNCOMBE COUNTY  
MEDICAL SOCIETY  
FOUNDATION



*"My health is finally beginning to stabilize ... I believe I am finally on the right track of treatment. This project does a world of good."  
- Paloma*



*"Project Access saved my life."  
- Jane*



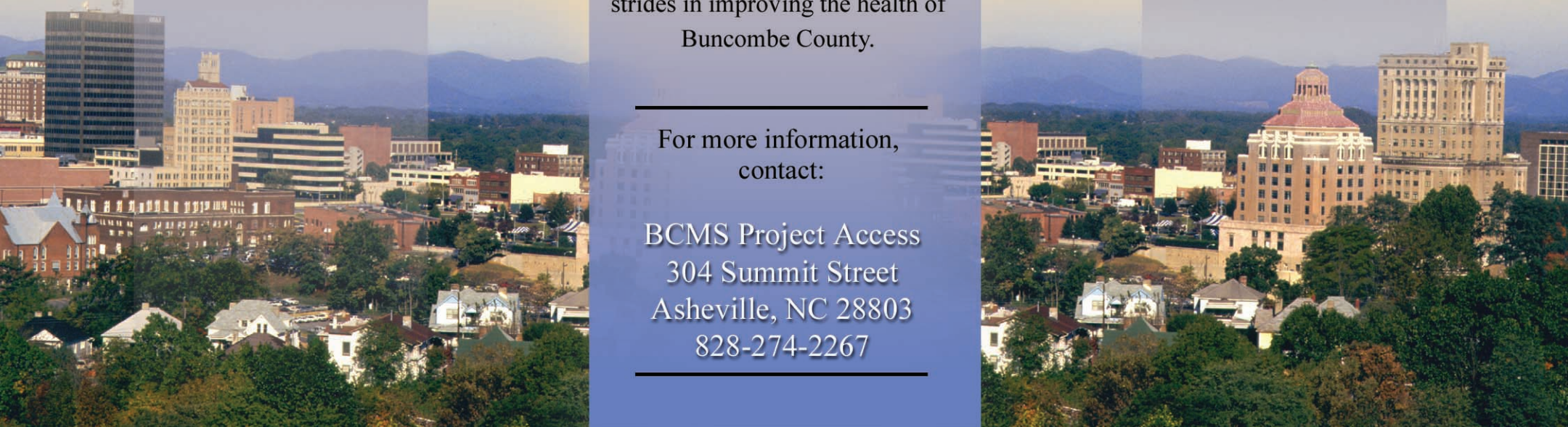
*"The doctors I have seen all treated me with dignity. If they weren't there for me I would have fallen through the cracks and would not be in the good stable health condition I am in today. Thank you."  
- Gary*

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For more information,  
contact:

BCMS Project Access  
304 Summit Street  
Asheville, NC 28803  
828-274-2267

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# What is BCMS PROJECT ACCESS?



BCMS Foundation Project Access provides access to full medical care for low income uninsured people who qualify. It is organized around a unique physician volunteer initiative

and provides healthcare at no charge to low income, uninsured residents of Buncombe County.

## WHO QUALIFIES?

- Buncombe County residents
- With income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level
- Have no health care insurance
- Do not qualify for Medicaid, Medicare, worker's compensation, or disability benefits

The majority of those enrolled in BCMS Foundation Project Access are hard working people who cannot afford to purchase health care insurance.



BCMS Foundation Project Access is a dynamic partnership of local physicians, community clinics, hospitals, pharmacies, and governmental agencies, who make up our community's safety net system. BCMS Foundation Project Access physicians see patients in their own offices and accept a Project Access card just like private insurance cards.

# How Does PROJECT ACCESS Work?

## PHYSICIAN SERVICES

More than 600 local physicians (85% practicing in the county), volunteer to see BCMS Foundation Project Access patients free of charge at community (safety net) clinics or in their private practices. Doctors donate their services, time, and staff and in return receive only the gratitude of the patient. BCMS Foundation physicians receive no payment or tax benefit for their donations.



## HOSPITAL SERVICES

Mission Hospitals and Thoms Rehabilitation Hospital at Care Partners accept BCMS Project Access patients and provide their full range of services at no charge. BCMS Project Access patients receive all necessary inpatient, outpatient, labs, x-rays, and related services, at no charge. BCMS Project Access patients receive care and referrals as if they have private health insurance.



## MEDICATIONS ASSISTANCE

BCMS Foundation Project Access patients receive medication assistance cards, honored by every pharmacy in Buncombe County. Area pharmacies waive part of their regular charges. BCMS Foundation Project Access uses funding provided through our County Commissioners to pay the balance of the medication costs, up to \$900 per person per year. Patients receive prescribed medications for only \$4.



# History of SUCCESS...

## MEASURABLE RESULTS

Perhaps most significant are the documented results of BCMS Foundation Project Access.

- Over 600 local physicians participate (85% of all practicing in Buncombe County).
- During 2003, 21,000 of the 23,000 low-income, uninsured Buncombe County residents were able to access full medical care (primary and specialty care).
- In 2003, BCMS Project Access provided over \$7 million dollars of free care to Buncombe County.
- Since it began in 1996, BCMS Project Access has documented over \$50 million in free care from private physicians, hospital services, medications, and medical equipment.
- The BCMS Project Access model is working in 30 cities across the country and is underway in over 200 more.

## HISTORY OF SUCCESS

Since winning the Innovations in American Government Award from the Ford Foundation, Harvard University and the Council for Excellence in Government in 1998, BCMS Foundation Project Access has helped dozens of communities across the nation replicate the Project Access model. BCMS Foundation Project Access has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, NBC Nightly News, and National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*.



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