Chris was the owner of a small business that repaired RVs. He has been known to do repair work pro bono for clients who he knew were living out of their RV. He had plans to expand before he became too ill to work and has since lost his small business.

Even though Chris showed signs of prostate cancer 5 years ago, he had not encountered any issues with his health. When Chris became ill early this year, he assumed he had the flu. Unable to afford a trip to the doctor, he ignored his symptoms.

Chris became severely ill and was unable to use the restroom. He did not want his family to be burdened with a large hospital bill, so he prolonged seeking treatment. His daughter insisted that Chris go to the emergency room. Once there, doctors removed 17 liters of fluid from Chris within 24 hours.

While in the hospital, Chris was diagnosed with prostate cancer and referred to Project Access in order to receive care from a urologist at no cost to him. The urologist donated surgery and has referred Chris to radiation oncology through Project Access, in order to address all his treatments for the cancer. Chris says, “If it hadn’t been for Project Access, none of this would have been able to happen.” “He would be missed,” says his wife, Nanette. Chris has received $133,059 in donated medical care coordinated through Project Access.

You are compassionate and caring in providing funds to help Central Plains coordinate health care for low-income patients without health insurance. Due to cuts in funding, please help by donating at www.cphcp.com. Thank you!
Many thanks to our most recent partners who have chosen to support the work of Central Plains Health Care Partnership through Project Access.

We would also like to thank the many physicians, hospitals and the network of donated care that this community provides for Project Access patients.

Central Plains Health Care Partnership continues to offer the same great services we have since 1999. Through our Project Access program, we are approaching the $200 million mark for donated care, thanks to the generosity of so many physicians, health care systems, dentists, laboratories, and other medical providers in Sedgwick County. We have also now served over 13,500 individuals since our beginning.

November 1 marked the beginning of the enrollment period for the Affordable Care Act (ACA). We were lucky enough to once again receive funding from the Kansas Association of the Medically Underserved (KAMU) for a full-time patient navigator for the open enrollment period. We also have three staff who are certified ACA counselors. Our staff work with existing Project Access clients to help them enroll for insurance through the ACA. Many patients do not qualify for a subsidy, and therefore, cannot be enrolled. Our temporary patient navigator also works with individuals in the community who are not Project Access clients, to help get them enrolled in the ACA.

This year, the ACA open enrollment period has been significantly reduced to only six weeks. In addition, the federal government has cut patient navigator services by 90%. Despite these challenges, we are committed to helping the clients we see obtain insurance through the ACA, if at all possible. Since the beginning of the ACA, we have seen more patients receive insurance through the marketplace, which is our goal. This has lessened the need for donated care from the medical community. However, we still see many individuals who do not qualify, so it is critical that medical providers continue to donate care. We are ever so grateful to those that continue to help low-income, uninsured individuals in Sedgwick County.