



Transforming Lives Through
Innovation And Gratitude

The Impact Of Philanthropy On Neuroscience Services — 2025



Leadership Message

Dear Supporters,

There are moments in health care when everything changes in an instant — a stroke, a seizure, a sudden loss of function. In those moments, what matters most is not only the care we provide, but how quickly we act and how well we support patients and their families moving forward.

Because of your generosity, our neuroscience program continues to grow in ways that truly change lives.

In 2025, we made meaningful strides to strengthen care, such as:

- Introducing new EEG equipment at St. Mary's Hospital and expanded capabilities across the Richmond market, providing faster, clearer insight for patients with epilepsy and seizure disorders.
- Expanding our use of Viz.ai with advanced tools to better identify ischemic and hemorrhagic strokes, reducing transfer times and accelerating access to the right care.
- Bringing clinicians together through our Stroke Education Summit, advancing expertise in stroke recognition and treatment at every stage.
- Strengthening our care teams with a Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation physician to better guide patients through recovery after discharge.

Looking ahead, we are focused on what more we can do with the right support, including:

- Investing in new CT imaging to improve speed and accuracy in diagnosing life-threatening neurological conditions.
- Advancing neurointerventional capabilities, including biplane imaging, to treat complex stroke and vascular conditions with greater precision.
- Expanding clinical research, bringing innovative therapies and national trials to our patients.
- Adding a dedicated Neuroscience ICU to St. Mary's new Critical Care Tower, advancing world-class care.

Each of these priorities represents an opportunity to act faster, treat smarter and support recovery in ways that truly change lives.

Thank you for being part of this work and helping us redefine what is possible in neuroscience care.

Sincerely,



Stacey Epps, MD

Stacey Epps, MD
Neurology, Board Certified
Executive Medical Director
Bon Secours Richmond Market



Ann S. Carpin

Ann S. Carpin
President
Bon Secours Richmond Foundation

Recognized for Quality of Care

The Bon Secours Richmond Neuroscience Service Line is recognized for delivering high quality, comprehensive care for patients with complex neurologic conditions, supported by strong outcomes, innovation and coordinated care across the continuum.

In 2025, all Bon Secours hospitals earned the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines Gold or Gold Plus award for stroke care, with Southside Medical Center receiving Silver Plus recognition, and St. Mary's Hospital achieving Advanced Therapies recognition as a Comprehensive Stroke Center. Our Epilepsy Monitoring Unit at St. Mary's is accredited by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers, and Bon Secours has also received the Healthgrades Neuroscience Excellence Award for stroke and cranial neurosurgery care.

Several neurologists have been named Top Doctors by Virginia Business, and our clinics were recognized by the Virginia Department of Health for improving BEFAST education and stroke recognition in the community.

These recognitions reflect a continued commitment to advancing neuroscience care and improving outcomes for the communities we serve

2025
Neuroscience
Care in Action

109
Thrombectomies
performed

56
Aneurysms treated

418
Neurointerventional
surgical procedures
completed

163
Vascular-related neuro
interventions performed

2,045
Stroke cases treated

230
Neurosurgical
procedures performed

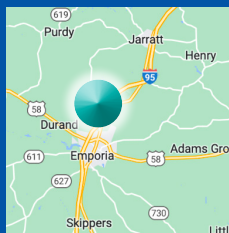
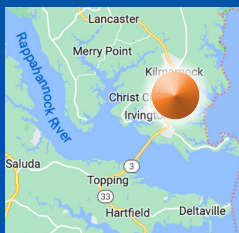
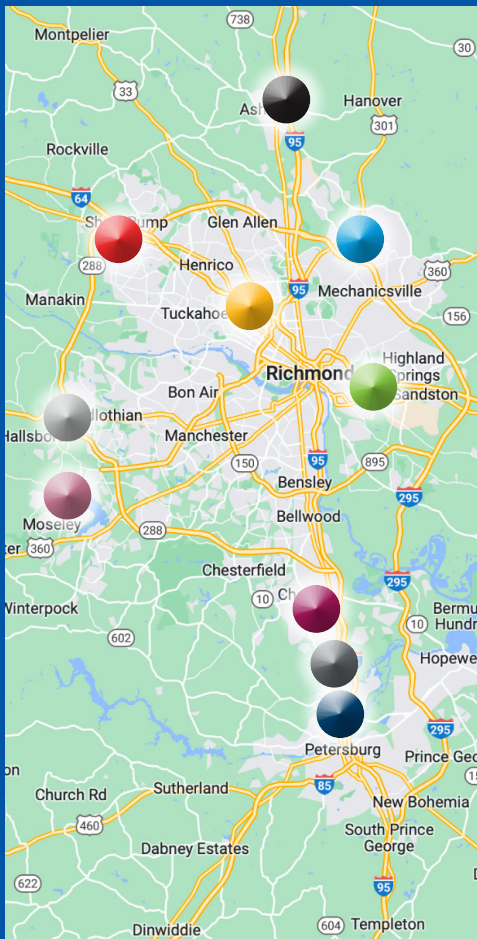
6,161
Outpatient
neurodiagnostic
studies conducted

5,197
Hospital-based
electroencephalogram
(EEG) studies performed

1,484
Ceribell* uses

47
Patients monitored in
the Epilepsy Monitoring
Unit (EMU)

*A Ceribell is a rapid response EEG system used in ICUs and emergency departments to detect seizures and non-convulsive status epilepticus within minutes.



Access to Care

- St. Mary's Hospital
- Memorial Regional Medical Center
- Rappahannock General Hospital
- Richmond Community Hospital
- St. Francis Medical Center
- Southside Medical Center
- Southern Virginia Medical Center

Freestanding Emergency Departments:

- Short Pump Emergency Center
- Westchester Emergency Center
- Chester Emergency Center
- Colonial Heights Emergency Center
- Ashland Emergency Center

Outpatient Neurology Clinics:

- St. Mary's Hospital, Richmond, VA
- Memorial Regional Medical Center, Mechanicsville, VA
- Westchester, Midlothian, VA
- Richmond Community Hospital, Richmond, VA
- Ironbridge, Chester, VA

Clinical trials:

At Bon Secours, we care for patients in crisis while working to prevent the next one. We are currently involved in the ASPIRE trial and are excited about the upcoming launch of the CLARITY trial in early summer 2026. Through this work, we are exploring new approaches to reduce recurrent strokes, improve treatment decisions and advance care for some of our most complex and vulnerable patients.



Did you know Bon Secours offers clinical trials in oncology, liver, cardiovascular and neurology research right here in Richmond? These trials advance medical knowledge, provide access to emerging treatments and offer patients opportunities often found only at large academic centers. By bringing this research to our community, we make innovative therapies and technologies available close to home. Our Neuroscience team is also advancing stroke research focused on preventing ischemic strokes.

To learn more about participating in or starting a clinical trial at Bon Secours – Richmond, contact our research department at 804-287-3583 or Kelly_Patterson@bshsi.org.



Neuroscience in Action

Smarter, Faster Stroke Care: The Power of Partnership and Innovation

In 2019, Bon Secours Mercy Health partnered with Viz.ai to bring artificial intelligence to stroke care, using real-time CT analysis and instant alerts to help clinicians identify serious strokes and act faster.

The impact has been significant. This technology has reduced treatment times by more than 30 minutes on average, strengthened coordination across hospitals and improved access to timely, life-saving care.

What began as a tool to improve stroke response has grown into a coordinated, multi-site network delivering measurable results

while opening the door to even greater advances. Through participation in a multicenter quality improvement study called LAAVA, we are focusing on the connection between Neurology and Cardiology for heart related stroke conditions. Emerging AI applications are also improving care for patients with brain bleeds and other serious neurological conditions by accelerating treatment decisions when time matters most. AI is not replacing clinicians, it is empowering them with faster insights, better coordination and more time to do what matters most: save lives.



From left, back row: Jessica Williams – Pharmacist, Dr. Amandeep Sangha – Neurologist, Dr. Mary Baker – Critical Care Intensivists Director, Dr. Shamsher Dalal – Neuro Interventionalist, Robin Scott – Neuro Program Manager, Ethan Newham – Critical Care Intensivist NP

From left, front row: Deb Alder – Short Pump Emergency Department Director, Kara Crawley – Critical Care Lead and Betsy Mitchell – Manager



What's most impressive about the Bon Secours program is how seamlessly they've integrated technology into clinical care. By combining real-time AI insights with strong care coordination, they've created a system where patients are identified and treated faster — when every minute truly matters in stroke.

— Tim Showalter, Viz.ai Chief Medical Officer

2025 Comprehensive Stroke Center Education Summit

The CSC Education Summit brought together interdisciplinary care teams for a full day of advanced, evidence-based training, expanding access to critical stroke education and strengthening the skills of those caring for patients at every stage of recovery. By investing in our frontline teams, this initiative translates directly into earlier recognition, faster treatment and more coordinated care, improving outcomes for the patients and families we serve. The impact was clear: participants overwhelmingly rated the experience as outstanding and practice-changing, reinforcing that continued support for programs like this drives meaningful, measurable improvements in stroke care. Collaboration is our strongest medicine.



Resilience After Stroke: Ray's Story of Recovery

Ray's journey began on January 3, 2026, when he suffered a massive stroke caused by significant blockages in the blood vessels supplying his brain. Because Ray had been experiencing symptoms for two days prior to seeking care, he was not a candidate



From left: Dorinda (wife), Ray (patient) and Dr. Emily Robbins

for early intervention — acute stroke treatments that must be given within a very short time window after symptoms begin.

During his hospitalization, his condition worsened as the stroke expanded, resulting in speech difficulty, loss of sensation, weakness and reduced responsiveness — raising serious concerns about his survival. Despite this, Ray began to improve through intensive therapy and the dedication of his care team and family. He was transitioned to inpatient rehabilitation, where he made steady progress. Since then, Ray has made remarkable gains in strength, mobility and cognition and is working toward a goal that once seemed out of reach: attending his daughter's wedding this summer. His journey is a powerful reminder of the resilience of the human brain and body, the importance of rehabilitation and the enduring role of hope in recovery.



Dr. Emily Robbins Brings PM&R Expertise to Bon Secours

Dr. Emily Robbins, PM&R

Dr. Emily Robbins (they/them) brings a rare and vital specialty to Bon Secours as the only Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) physician in the Richmond market.

In this role, Dr. Robbins helps patients and families navigate one of the most difficult parts of the journey from illness or injury back toward independence. They focus on how medical conditions affect a person's ability to move, function and reclaim daily life.

As Medical Director for Stroke Rehabilitation, Dr. Robbins helps ensure patients receive the right care at the right time, guiding transitions from the hospital into rehabilitation and supporting recovery across the continuum. They work closely with care teams to address pain, spasticity and other challenges that can stand in the way of meaningful recovery.

For families, Dr. Robbins is often a steady voice in uncertain moments, helping them understand what recovery may look like and what is possible. They also advocate behind the scenes to help patients access the rehabilitation services they need.

In outpatient care, Dr. Robbins works with patients facing both acute and chronic musculoskeletal conditions, focusing on non-surgical, non-opioid approaches that restore movement, reduce pain and improve quality of life.

Across every setting, Dr. Robbins meets patients where they are — with compassion, clarity and a deep commitment to helping them regain independence and dignity.

Dr. Robbins' presence strengthens Bon Secours' Mission to care for the whole person — not just during hospitalization, but throughout the full journey of recovery and healing.



Steve is living his childhood dream, thanks to you

Steve's Story: A Second Chance at Life

Steve Brown has wanted to be a firefighter since he was a small child. Eight years ago, that dream became reality.

But one day on duty, everything changed. After taking a blow to the head from a heavy wooden brace, Steve was initially treated for a routine injury. Hours later, he became confused and had difficulty speaking. A CT scan showed no traumatic injury — but it revealed something far more serious: a rare 5.5-millimeter colloid cyst.

Steve's wife, Holly, a lead interventional radiology technologist for Bon Secours, urged him to see a neurosurgeon at St. Mary's Hospital.

After careful evaluation, surgery was recommended. When the cyst was removed, doctors found it had already grown and shifted, nearly blocking a

ventricle — something that could have led to life-threatening hydrocephalus.

Looking back, Steve reflects on how close he came to tragedy — and how quickly life can change.

"I've waited my whole life to be a firefighter," he says. "If it weren't for Bon Secours, I would have had to give up my dream job."

Following surgery, Steve faced a long recovery — 19 months of rebuilding strength and confidence before returning to work.

"I had to get mentally prepared to come back," he says. "Without everybody at Bon Secours, it would have never happened."

Today, Steve is back doing what he always dreamed of doing. But his perspective has changed.

"This time now — it's bonus time," he says.

"I spent 19 months after surgery trying to fight my way back. I had to get mentally prepared to come back to work. Without everybody at Bon Secours, it would have never happened."

— Steve Brown, Patient



To hear Steve's full story, scan the QR code.

To make a gift in support of expert care and life-changing breakthroughs for neuroscience patients and their loved ones, please visit our website at givebsmh.org/cause/richmond-va-neurosciences or mail gifts to:

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