

## Newfound Independence

Driving a car is a symbol of independence and is closely tied to an individual's identity. It also represents freedom and control and allows older adults to gain easy access to medical appointments, groceries, and even employment.

For Richard, losing that sense of independence and freedom wasn't easy. Without the ability to drive himself to medical appointments or even grocery shopping was hard. With no immediate family to rely on, Richard had to walk or ride his bike to appointments that were close to his home of over 20 years.

Not knowing where to turn, Richard came across TCAA and the spectrum of in-home services for seniors. He called TCAA and arranged a ride to a medical procedure that he desperately needed to get to. Not only did our volunteers drive him to his procedure, but they also waited to drive him back home after he was discharged.

Richard now requires a portable oxygen tank to help him breathe and lead a normal life. He now receives regular check-ins and transportation services to appointments and shopping trips. For the first time in a long time, Richard has people he can rely on. The team of dedicated and passionate volunteers has given Richard what he lost, a sense of independence and freedom.

