



Virginia MIRC< [vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov](mailto:vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov)>

## Consideration of Medicaid Expansion

1 message

**Alice Menks**< [REDACTED]>

Thu, Sep 12, 2013 at 8:15 AM

To: Members of the MIRC Commission <[vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov](mailto:vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov)>

Dear Members of the MIRC Commission,

I would like to request your careful consideration of Medicaid expansion in Virginia. I am a Speech/Language Pathologist practicing at Culpeper Regional Hospital and am seeing more and more clients who are struggling financially and becoming unable to afford the skyrocketing costs of Health Insurance. I myself am having to come up with an extra \$160 a month and co-pays that went up 33% the coming year on my already tight budget so I cannot imagine how people who are already struggling with rising costs of food, gas, insurance and more will be able to keep their heads above water if they are in lower income brackets that don't quite qualify for Medicaid yet but soon may. I realize that government is needing to cut back in many areas, but the health of our citizens should be considered paramount, as without health what kind of life do our citizens have? Our hospital has experienced almost 3 million dollars in shortfalls this past year due to sequestration and Federal cuts and having to pay for patients who cannot pay for their care and it is causing our administrators to have to make cuts in many areas including not matching our retirement funds any longer. They cannot keep incurring mounting debts from patients who cannot pay but we are required to treat. I ask you to consider those who are struggling and may not be able to afford insurance in the coming years and please expand Medicaid to include their needs. This will be of great help to help keep our hospital sustainable as well as we try to serve our local patients who need us. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely, Alice Menks  
Speech Language Pathologist  
Culpeper Regional Hospital

Sincerely,

Alice Menks

[REDACTED]  
Graves Mill, VA [REDACTED]