

Virginia MIRC< vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

Wed, Oct 9, 2013 at 11:17 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov**First Name** - Christine**Last Name** - Winner**Organization Name** - College of William & Mary, Class of 2000; Member Virginia Organization of Consumers Asserting Leadership (VOCAL)

Comment - Medicaid Expansion is right for Virginia! Medicaid expansion makes sense just when you consider the projected cost savings that would take place from 2014-2022. Case in point, expansion of Medicaid will result in savings in six key areas. First, just over one hundred million dollars from the replacing of general funds with federal funds used to support programs for low income individuals who don't currently qualify for Medicaid. Second, nearly a million and a half dollars potentially garnered from other ACA provisions. Third, the current state employee health insurance plan will see slowed growth in premium increases, a forecasted \$170 million dollars. Fourth, Nearly three million dollars EACH will be realized from Medicaid expansion with the covering of inpatient hospital care for state inmates AND from insuring Consumers of Mental Health and Substance Abuse services at our Virginia Community Service Boards. Finally, a most significant savings of over six million dollars from the reduction of costly indigent care by about fifty percent. It is known that crisis escalates with lack of treatment and financial hurdles to services. What many seem to be turning a blind eye towards is the fact that when this happens it is VERY expensive for communities, families, the taxpayer, and our health care system. Medicaid expansion in Virginia would significantly mitigate this burdensome outcome and it is the right step for Virginia, a state that prides itself on fiscal responsibility and sound "management". I ask you that you keep the big picture in mind. Thank-you!