



Virginia MIRC< vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

Medicaid expansion

1 message

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Please support the expansion of Medicaid in Virginia!

As an employee of NAMI Virginia and as a person who has a mental illness, I am well aware of the challenges a person with mental illness faces. In many cases the person is unable to work the number of hours necessary to make a living wage. Currently in Virginia, one must be below 133% of the poverty line to qualify for Medicaid. Under Medicaid expansion, a person making \$15,000 would qualify. Having access to the proper medical treatment is cost effective! Unemployment benefits are lowered drastically, food stamps become unnecessary, homelessness is decreased, and quality of life is immeasurably improved.

I am living proof of this. I was hospitalized three times. Nothing was working. I now have a medicine that has not only kept me out of the hospital for 20 years, but also has allowed me to be a healthy person for all these years.