



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment1 message

Mon, Oct 14, 2013 at 9:17 AM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]
To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov**First Name** - Frank**Last Name** - Principi**Organization Name** - Greater Prince William Community Health Center

Comment - Dear Commission... I write to you today on half of the nearly 50,000 patients we have served over the last five years - those that have made our Center their Patient Centered Medical Home. Nearly 60% of these patients (newborns, children, and adults) are uninsured, many more are underinsured and do not have access to affordable health insurance for them and their families. Consequently, we experience significant health disparities in Prince William County. Our region has some of the worst health outcomes in the state, including a higher than average incidence of cancer, asthma, diabetes, heart disease, and infant mortality/low birth weights. Our Center provides affordable access to integrated primary, dental, behavioral, and prenatal care to the whole family under one roof in Northern Virginia. We see the effects of deferred health care services everyday in our Center. Patients unable to manage multiple chronic diseases suffer from the advanced stages of the disease, their quality of life significantly degraded, and their productivity in our region severely hampered. Medicaid expansion makes good business sense in Prince William County as well. Expanded Medicaid will enable the Center to hire additional doctors and dentists and the required support staff needed to operate our business. Today, we have 54 dedicated, hard-working staff that contribute to the tax base of the region thanks to the current Medicaid system in place in the state. With expanded Medicaid we will be in a position to hire and grow our own real estate and personal property tax as well. The Center respectfully requests the Commission to expand Medicaid eligibility for more families to ensure they get the insurance they need and the health care services required to improve their health. In addition, Medicaid expansion is good for our economy. If you would like to speak with me directly, I can be reached at [REDACTED]. Sincerely, Frank J. Principi Executive Director Greater Prince William Community Health Center [REDACTED]