



Virginia MIRC< vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

[REDACTED]

Tue, Oct 8, 2013 at 9:07 AM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

First Name - Larry

Last Name - Soufal

Organization Name -

Comment -



MIRC Commission.doc

29K

8 October 2013

Dear MIRC Commission,

I am writing to urge the commission to expand Medicaid in Virginia. I support Medicaid expansion because it will enable thousands of adults with mental health disorders to gain access to mental health care. During the past year alone, six in ten adults experiencing serious mental illness went without mental health care, in large part due to having no insurance. Under Virginia's current strict eligibility, thousands of low-income adults who live with mental illness do not qualify for Medicaid. Expansion will change that.

Lack of treatment and services often escalates into crisis, which is more expensive for the health care system, the person and family, and the community. We have seen this right here in our own neighborhood and hear it in the news all too frequently.

Virginia already spends millions of dollars through the state General Fund to provide health care for people who are uninsured. Medicaid expansion would be a more cost-effective way of providing coverage.

Sincerely,

Larry A. Soufal