



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

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## New MIRC Comment

1 message

Wed, Oct 16, 2013 at 1:02 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: [vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov](mailto:vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov)

**First Name** - Martha

**Last Name** - Shephard

**Organization Name** - Citizen/taxpayer

**Comment** -



October 16.pdf

169K

October 16, 2013

Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission  
201 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
General Assembly Building  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission,

I am writing to urge the commission to expand Medicaid in Virginia. I support Medicaid expansion because thousands of adults with mental health disorders will be able to gain access to mental health care. Virginia's current strict Medicaid eligibility guidelines do not cover thousands of low-income adults who live with mental illness. Lack of treatment and services often escalates into crisis, which is more expensive for the health care system, the person and their family, and the community. Virginia already spends millions of dollars through the state general fund to provide health care for persons without insurance. Medicaid expansion would be a more cost-effective way to provide coverage.

As a concerned, taxpaying citizen, I strongly support Medicaid expansion in Virginia.

Sincerely,

Martha Shephard