

Virginia MIRC< vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

Wed, Oct 9, 2013 at 3:56 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]
To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

First Name - MaryAlison**Last Name** - Galway**Organization Name** - Retired Director of Adult Day Services-VT

Comment - I have heard that you are looking at the transportation portion of Medicaid as a way to save money. I urge you to not cut this benefit as it is vitally important for Medicaid recipients - all of them very poor, virtually all unable to travel independently. This is especially important in rural areas. For 12 years I ran the Adult Day Services program at Virginia Tech and worked closely with the directors of the Harrisonburg and Waynesboro ADS centers through our professional association the Virginia Adult Day Health Services Association. Medicaid is a vital support for the adults who use our services and transportation is a necessary for these physically and usually mentally impaired people to attend the centers. The caregivers are not able to fund transportation, often trying to work to support their own families and themselves while caring for someone at home instead of sending them to a nursing home. In addition, I don't see any "fat" in any Medicaid expenditure. Providers usually are paid less than the cost of providing the service and many providers have stopped accepting Medicaid. These "savings" will simply make miserable lives for struggling people more hopeless.