



Virginia MIRC&lt; vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov&gt;

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**New MIRC Comment**

1 message

Fri, Oct 11, 2013 at 10:41 AM

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

**First Name** - Mary Beth**Last Name** - Bingman**Organization Name** - n.a.

**Comment** - I urge you to expand Medicaid in Virginia. It makes fiscal sense -- Federal support for all and then most of the cost, reduced health care costs as people get the care they need. But more importantly, you will be making a significant contribution to improving the health care of your fellow citizens. In the the "far Southwest" where I live, women's life expectancy is dropping. I know women who did not follow up on a suspicious mammogram because they lacked insurance. The one hospital in Lee County recently closed with finances impacted by their burden of uncompensated care a contributing factor. Scott County hasn't had a hospital in the 40 years I have lived there. We were able to come together as a community and open a clinic in Dungannon in the late 1970s that serves people from a wide area and needs the support that expanded Medicaid could provide. If you have any doubts about the need for expanded access to health care in our part of the Commonwealth (and I am sure we are not alone) read reports on the attendance at the annual RAM event held in Wise County each year. (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/nation/interactives/healingfields/>) Thank you for your consideration and your efforts to improve access to health care in Virginia. Beth Bingman