



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

Fri, Sep 20, 2013 at 12:07 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

First Name - Nicole

Last Name - Zamostny

Organization Name - NAMI Virginia

Comment -

 NZamostny MIRC Comment.pdf
22K

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.

As an Undergraduate at Virginia Tech, I volunteered at Raft Crisis Hotline in the New River Valley area. I saw personally how the lack of treatment and services escalates into crisis, which is more expensive for the health care system, the person and family, and the community.

Now, as an MSW student at Virginia Commonwealth University I have developed an even greater understanding of the dire need for mental health care access in Virginia.

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. 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,

Nicky Zamostny