



Virginia MIRC< vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

Mon, Oct 7, 2013 at 7:33 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

First Name - Paul

Last Name - Gibson

Organization Name - All Saints Catholic Church

Comment - Dear Members of the Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission, Please protect vulnerable people and expand the Medicaid eligible population to 133% of the Federal Poverty level (a single adult making \$15,281 a year). Access to affordable health care is a basic human right and should be available to all. The Commonwealth of Virginia currently has among the strictest eligibility criteria in the country, ranking 48th in per capita contributions to Medicaid. Healthier Virginians mean a healthier commonwealth and overall lower healthcare costs across the state. The Affordable Care Act also eliminates uncompensated care reimbursement to hospitals. Without Medicaid expansion, hospitals will be left to completely cover those costs for the most vulnerable patients, something for which we will all have to pay. According to a Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association study, Medicaid expansion in Virginia would provide an economic boost of some \$3.9 billion annually and create an estimated 30,000 new jobs in the Commonwealth. Without Medicaid expansion, Virginia residents' federal tax dollars will leave Virginia and benefit states expanding Medicaid. Thank you for considering my perspective in this important matter.