



Virginia MIRC< vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

I support expanding Medicaid to 400,000 Virginians

1 message

Sherri Trader< [REDACTED]>

Tue, Sep 24, 2013 at 2:42 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

Sep 24, 2013

Virginia Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission
VA

Dear Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission,

Everyone should have access to healthcare - whether they are 95 years of age, or 2. It is a very sad day when people are on their own just because some disproportionate group of hypocritical judgmental people in power believe these folks are not contributing or pulling their own weight. From conception, many impoverished children begin life at a disadvantage and must climb a mountain just to get to a near level starting point compared with children who have all the advantages that their parents' money can buy. This is not a myth - it is reality. With this being said, not everyone will have the education, the connections, or even the self-esteem to become business owners or even enter the middle class. These less fortunate people, who are more than willing to work for a living, settle into jobs that are available to them. Since most readily available jobs are less risky, unglamorous, pay less than a living wage, and do not offer affordable if any health insurance, they go through life without. It is not their fault that they are working for what I see as uncaring and in some cases, greedy businesses that have profits higher than ever yet refuse to take care of those who make their company what it is by not paying a living wage or providing health insurance. So do these disadvantaged people deserve to go through life without any healthcare until misfortune catches up with them at which point we all pay the price? What about senior citizens who have already worked themselves to the bone, have outlived their expectancy by 15 years, and are barely making it on what's left of their fixed income forced to choose between prescriptions or food? What about the 2 year old whose parents knew about his/her physical disability while in the womb, but chose to "do the Christian thing" and opted not to abort the pregnancy. Do we stop caring about babies AFTER they are born just because their parent(s) aren't earning a living wage? For that matter, did we ever really care for them medically while they were in the womb (as many uninsured women who no longer have access to Planned Parenthood, no longer have prenatal care)? When was it that we actually stopped caring for each other? Not such a Christian thin if you ask me. If we will already be paying the taxes, then don't our citizens deserve the benefit particularly if the federal government is picking up a higher proportion of the tab?

Why would Virginia even think about declining such an offer while other states are signing on? The bottom line: We should allow the Medicaid expansion to happen then see how it plays out before making an outright command decision to deny it to Virginians. Let's not make this about politics. Virginia needs to be on the right side of history and put its citizens first.

Sincerely,

Sherri Trader

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