



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

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**New MIRC Comment**

1 message

Fri, Oct 11, 2013 at 2:32 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

**First Name** - Diane**Last Name** - Peterson**Organization Name** - AARP Virginia

**Comment** - For many years I worked for the area agency on aging and had numerous clients who could not afford health insurance. They were not old enough to receive Medicare and could not afford to purchase health insurance. Some were employed part-time and had no health care benefits. They were low income, and it was a struggle to pay their monthly living expenses. So their health was neglected because they did not have health insurance and medication coverage. Some would use the ER for their medical care or they would go untreated. Most had chronic health conditions and were not receiving medical care. Many relied on assistance from social service agencies or faith-based organizations to pay for their medications. Expanding Medicaid to persons 50 to 64 years of age will greatly benefit them by providing health care coverage which will increase their chances of receiving ongoing medical care thereby decreasing the need for more costly long term care.