



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

medicaid expansion

1 message

Lauren Nash [REDACTED]
To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

Tue, Oct 8, 2013 at 3:51 PM

I would like to see medicaid expanded in the State of Virginia. I work in the human service field, and in my line of work I come across individuals daily that would benefit from access to Medicaid. We serve as many pro-bono clients as possible at River City Comprehensive Counseling Services, but every day we have to turn away potential clients. What not everyone realizes, is that almost every case of substance abuse stems from individuals trying to self-medicate their symptoms with illegal street drugs. Many clients also have severe mental illnesses such as Schizophrenia and Bipolar disorders, which left untreated can lead them to commit violent crimes. Young men make up an especially large part of this population, due to it being nearly impossible for them to get medicaid. Providing comprehensive care so these individuals can access much needed mental health and substance abuse services will be a huge step in reducing crime and making it possible for people with mental illness to be productive members of society.

Thank you,
Lauren Nash