



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

Mon, Oct 14, 2013 at 4:15 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

First Name - Greg

Last Name - Madsen

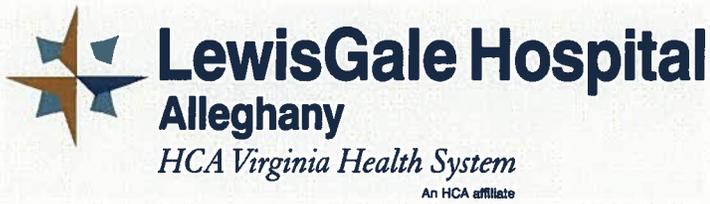
Organization Name - LewisGale Hospital Alleghany

Comment -



Lewis Gale Hospital Alleghany Medicaid Support Letter.pdf

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October 14, 2013

The Honorable Emmett Hanger
Chairman
Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission
Commonwealth of Virginia
201 North 9th Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Commission Members:

On behalf of LewisGale Hospital Alleghany, and our more than 300 employees, I write to inform you of our support for the expansion of Medicaid. We are proud to be part of the LewisGale Regional Health System and HCA Virginia Health System and our systems also support the expansion of Medicaid.

In 2012, the four hospitals and the outpatient centers that make up LewisGale Regional Health System served more than 31,000 Medicaid participants in southwest Virginia and provided approximately \$120 million in charity and uncompensated care. Many of the patients we treat would benefit greatly from increased access to health care and the expansion of the Medicaid program in Virginia is a key way to accomplish that goal.

We support reform of the current Medicaid program along with expansion, but reform and expansion must take place concurrently in order for Virginia to realize benefits from the approximately \$26 billion in taxes our residents have paid as part of the Affordable Care Act.

Hospitals like ours are continuing to experience funding cuts in other federal programs under the ACA. Not expanding Medicaid will further exacerbate those cuts and strain the delivery of existing services.

As a protective measure against Federal budget issues, Virginia has also prepared for a potential withdrawal from the expanded program in future years if ever needed.

On behalf of LewisGale Hospital Alleghany I urge the Commission to allow the Medicaid program to expand while the state implements significant reforms to the current Medicaid system.

Sincerely,

Greg Madsen, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer

/gm