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October 10, Global Mental Health Day

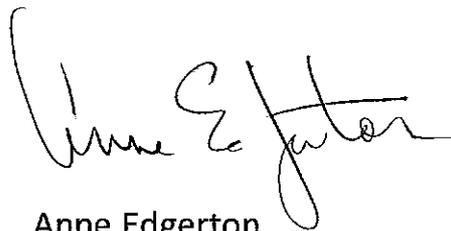
Dear MIRC members,

Expanding Medicaid is a more cost-effective option to provide mental health coverage for low income Virginians than the current system.

Mental Health America of Virginia (MHAV) serves hundreds who do not qualify for coverage, but have instead received mental health services through the criminal justice system.

We support Medicaid expansion as a first step to increasing access of low income adults to mental health care. Too often a lack of treatment and services can escalate into a crisis, but by expanding Medicaid, more Virginians will be able to get the help they know they need.

Sincerely,



**Anne Edgerton
Executive Director**