



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

New MIRC Comment

1 message

Fri, Oct 11, 2013 at 1:04 PM

Reply-To: [REDACTED]

To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

First Name - Rhonda

Last Name - Zingraff

Organization Name - Grace United Church of Christ

Comment -



Medicaid Expansion.pdf

95K

Dear Members of the Medicaid Innovation and Reform Commission,

I have had extensive opportunity to watch the families of children who qualify for Medicaid services as they expressed concern about what would happen to them if they did not have that support. And it always puts me in mind of the families who do not have the support because they are on long waitlists or they live in our state, rather than in a state with more flexible eligibility criteria. The people who are impacted adversely by this would be ALL OF US, because dollars invested in the health and wellbeing of children pay off so immensely in the future based on school performance and workforce participation. We too often risk being penny-wise and pound-foolish when it comes to investments in children, and making wise decisions now about Medicaid expansion can shield us from that foolishness and all that it will cost the Commonwealth in the future.

Please protect the vulnerable and expand the Medicaid eligible population to 133% of the Federal Poverty level (a single adult making \$15,281 a year). Access to affordable health care is a basic human right and should be available to all. Currently Virginia has among the strictest eligibility criteria in the country and ranks 48th in per capita contributions to Medicaid. Healthier Virginians mean overall lower healthcare costs across the state. Thank you for considering my perspective in this important matter.

Rhonda Zingraff
Mount Jackson, VA