



Virginia MIRC <vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov>

---

## New MIRC Comment

1 message

---

Thu, Oct 10, 2013 at 9:00 AM

Reply-to: [REDACTED]  
To: vamirc@mirc.virginia.gov

**First Name** - Susan

**Last Name** - Drachsler

**Organization Name** -

**Comment** -



**MIRC Commission Letter.docx**  
86K

Dear MIRC Commission Members,

Thank you for serving on this important commission. Your decision can improve the lives of thousands of low-income Virginians who are not receiving health care because they have no insurance and cannot afford treatment. Not only does this situation put individuals in jeopardy of having their health conditions become more severe and more costly to treat, but it also affects the lives of their family members and, ultimately, the economy of our state.

I am particularly concerned about Virginians who are in need of mental health care. I am a volunteer with a local organization called Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center and have learned how incapacitating mental health conditions can be if not treated. Treatment can change lives. By expanding Medicaid, thousands of low-income Virginians who need help will be able to receive mental health services. The problems of children with mental health needs can be best addressed while they are young. People will be able to go back to work. Youngsters who are growing up with loved ones who have a mental illness will have a more secure childhood. By enabling more Virginians to receive mental health care, you will better guarantee the wellbeing of entire communities.

I urge you to envision the faces of your constituents who need this assistance as you make your decision and to think of Medicaid expansion as a means of ensuring a better future for our state.

Sincerely,

Susan Drachsler

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]