Volunteer Star

SYLVIA SEVERANCE, R.N.

What duties do you perform in your volunteer role at CVIM?
I perform nursing duties similar to those of an office nurse. I take patients’ height, weight, and vital signs and chart their chief complaint. I also draw blood and prepare specimens for outside testing as well as do EKGs and other tests when appropriate. I help introduce nursing students from West Chester University to CVIM and the work it does in the community.

What brought you to volunteer at CVIM?
I learned about CVIM from my friend, Jean Welz, who was a dental volunteer. I had just retired and wanted to stay active in the medical field.

How does volunteering at CVIM make you feel?
It takes the combined forces of many people in various disciplines to deliver medical care. As a nurse, I feel like an important player on the CVIM team. We work together to provide the patient with the very best medical care and follow up in a kind and supportive manner. That is a very good feeling!

What would you tell your friends to interest them in volunteering at the clinic?
Volunteers come to CVIM with a smile on their face. We all want to be here to help those without insurance. That makes the patients feel good and our smiles brighter!

What other hats have you worn?
Over the years I’ve had a variety of nursing positions. I’ve worked in the hospital, in a doctor’s office, and as a visiting nurse. While raising my five children, I was able to help out in their schools as well as be a camp nurse.

When you’re not at CVIM, what are a few of the things you do for enjoyment?
I enjoy book club, bridge, swimming, walking, and travel. What is best are many family activities.