

McCready Foundation

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REBECCA G.
ILGEN, PA/C

Building a healthy community one person at a time.

Becky Ilgen's high school advisor urged her to go into teaching, but the bubbly Baby Boomer chose medicine instead.

She began as a medical technologist in a hospital lab in her native Pennsylvania, but didn't have much contact with patients. After discovering a new field designed to train Vietnam-era medics to assist stateside doctors, she enrolled in a physician's assistant program offered at Penn State-Hershey. An internship at a Pocomoke physician's office brought her to the Eastern Shore and eventually to her job as PA to Dr. Michael Atkins at McCready's Outpatient Center in Crisfield.

Becky's specialty is family medicine. "You get to know the patients and the things that happen in families over the years.

Sometimes, you get to know the endings."

Her oldest patient is 94, the youngest, 16. She travels to Smith Island with her nurse, Jill Rayfield, to see patients. And she also makes house calls on the mainland, one of the area's few health-care professionals who does.

Becky likes taking in a movie or dining out with five close friends – "the Ya-yas," she affectionately calls them, or with her husband, Dr. Robert Reilly. Their rustic Snow Hill farmhouse reminds her of the farm where she grew up. She knows how to bale hay and milk a cow, but the animals in her life these days are eight black cats - named for favorite actors or films.



Learn more about Becky Ilgen at www.McCreadyFoundation.org

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