

I N F O R M E R

PROJECT COMPONENTS

*Science Club**Science Instruction**Hands-on Fun***Science— It's Every-
where Partners**

- Whitaker Fund for Science and Math
- The Foundation for Enhancing Communities
- Harrisburg School District
- The Residence at Governor's Square
- The Volunteer Center of the United Way



SCIENCE—IT'S EVERYWHERE

Science- It's Everywhere! That's the name of the fun science discovery project that has recently begun at OIC. The project started as an idea that the executive director, Jeffrey Woodyard had after receiving multiple books and science kit donations from **Pearson Scott-Foresman** and the **McGraw Hill Book Company** through the *Brother's Brother Foundation*.

Looking at the books and wondering how they could best be put to use, Mr. Woodyard thought of starting a science club. Not just for children – but for adults as well. He applied to a local foundation for support. The grant was approved and the project **Science- It's Everywhere!** started. This year the project is fully

funded by a generous grant from the *Whitaker Fund for Math and Science* of the *The Foundation for Enhancing Communities*.

The project goal is to serve 15 adults and 15 children. The project is designed to help adults better understand the concepts that they must learn to pass the GED science examination. The adults are also learning how science is used in their homes and communities. The adults must learn an experiment and be able to demonstrate the experiment for a selected group of children. The donated books are used to teach the science concepts. The science kits are used to reinforce the science concepts by providing hands-on practical experience and observations. Learning science concepts and using the scientific method have improved the

students' reading and writing skills.

For the children it's more about fun and exposure to new ideas and fun facts. The children meet on a regular basis as club members. Some children meet afterschool while others meet at a neighborhood center. The science kits donated are ideally suited for the elementary school-aged students. The children learn the same concepts as the adults but have the benefit of being mentored by their parent, college interns or adult volunteers. The intergenerational aspect of this project makes it unique.

The OIC program is located at 500 Maclay Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110. For more information about the project contact Jeffrey Woodyard at jwoodyard@tricountyoic.org.

BOOKYMOBILE HELPS WITH SCIENCE PROJECT

Another component of this project is the use of the OIC **BookyMobile**[®] (another OIC project supported through donations from the *Brother's Brother Foundation*). The **BookyMobile**[®] now doubles as a science lab-on-wheels. The **BookyMobile**[®] brings science activities and reading materials to area neighborhoods. Recently the science club visited the local science center- the *Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts*. Several more field trips are being planned as part of the project. The teacher for the project, Cindy Dubbs says, *The adults and the children are having such fun learning about science, we hope that we can continue the project next year.*