

## Furthering Science Education through the Life Sciences Learning Center

### **Case for Action:**

The Life Sciences Learning Center serves the needs of local students and teachers:

- Some laboratory equipment and materials not available in average classrooms
- Students require different learning models
- Science teachers do not always have access to professional development

### **Description:**

With the goal to further science education and encourage science as a career choice, this education outreach program has been developed to serve local students and teachers and to reach out to under-represented minority students and at-risk groups of secondary school students.

Programs help teachers discover how to motivate students, raise their confidence level, and erase misconceptions about what it means to do science:

- Located at UR
- Accommodates up to 48 students
- Field trips, vacation and summer science camps
- Professional development programs for science teachers
- Emphasis on hands-on activities
- Diverse life sciences topics: genetics, biotechnology, microbiology, environmental health, toxicology and more

### **Partners/Funding:**

- Rochester City School District
- UR Center for Science Education and Outreach
- NIH

### **Outcomes:**

- Hosts 2,000 – 2,500 students and 100 science teachers each year
- Development of innovative science programming focused on engaging students in hands-on, inquiry-based activities in real world setting

### **For more information contact:**

Dina Markowitz  
University of Rochester Medical Center  
Environmental Medicine  
601 Elmwood Avenue, Box EHSC  
Rochester, NY 14642  
585-275-3171  
[dina.Markowitz@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:dina.Markowitz@urmc.rochester.edu)