Goal: improving teacher quality, increasing public understanding

Summary: The COSI On Wheels program is a traveling program started during the 1983/1984 school year. The purpose of the program is to bring hands-on science experiences to schools in Ohio and surrounding states.

Purpose: Currently, we offer eight programs to schools (six elementary programs and two middle school programs). The programs consist of an initial 45-minute, large group assembly followed by small group hands-on exploration time that allows student to further explore the topic for the day. The hands-on experiences are facilitated by COSI’s Outreach Demonstrator and 15-20 adult volunteers provided by the school. Program topics include agriculture, chemistry, energy, space, sports, structures, and wildlife.

Accomplishments/results: COSI On Wheels is finishing its 19th school year and averages 875 school events per year reaching about 350,000 students. Since its inception, COSI On Wheels has reached more than 4 million students, which is a testament to the quality of the program.

Plans for next 12 months: The demand for the program has remained strong through the years and we continue to see a need for this type of programming in the schools. In the next year, COSI On Wheels is planning on revamping two of our current programs (agriculture and sports) and creating a new program (possibly weather or archeology).