

**Help Change the World One Story at a Time:
Volunteers Who Love to Read Needed to Join Open Door Family Medical Centers' Literacy Program**

Calling all readers, Open Door Family Medical Centers is currently looking for volunteers to join their Reach Out and Read program. Open Door is an official site for the national literacy program, [Reach Out and Read](#), and offers the program at its sites in Ossining, Sleepy Hollow, Mt. Kisco and Port Chester. Reach Out and Read is geared towards children living in poverty and is designed to take place in a medical environment.

As part of the program, Open Door's volunteers read to children in the waiting rooms, provide instructions on reading techniques to parents and help children choose a book to take home. As part of the program pediatricians and family physicians also distribute new age-appropriate books and demonstrate reading techniques at each well-child visit for children from 6 months to 5 years. In 2011 Open Door's Reach Out and Read volunteers read to 2,708 children and provided 6,707 books to families to help promote and foster a love of reading at home.



In addition to needing readers, donations of gently used children's books, particularly board books, are always needed to support the Reach Out and Read program at all 4 sites. For more information about volunteering for Open Door's Reach Out And Read program, and to donate books contact Alicia Ward, Volunteer Coordinator at: (914) 502-1468 or by email at award@odfmc.org.

About Open Door Family Medical Centers

Open Door has received the highest Recognition as a Patient-Centered Medical Home™ (PPC-PCMH™) from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). This ranking distinguishes them from medical practices across the nation as less than 12% are presently eligible to achieve this advanced standing. For 40 years, the federally qualified community health center has served a multi-cultural community and has provided top quality medical, dental care and social services to the Westchester community, particularly the economically disadvantaged. Open Door has four centers in Westchester located in Ossining, Port Chester, Mt. Kisco and Sleepy Hollow. In addition, Open Door operates five school-based health centers in Port Chester at The Edison Elementary School, Park Avenue School, Kennedy Magnet School, Port Chester Middle School and Port Chester High School. In 2011, 47,245 patients were treated at Open Door, making 208,622 patient visits. In the same year 14,520 children were treated. Funding for Open Door Family Medical Centers comes from local, state and federal grants as well as private foundations and individuals.

