



Gatewave

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Management Team

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& Director of
Broadcast Operations*

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Broadcast Technology

Industry

Broadcast Audio Information
Service for Blind, Visually
Impaired and Disabled
Persons

Company Resources

- State of the art recording & broadcast equipment
- NPR Satellite station
- 62-member affiliate stations nationwide
- 60 NYC/Tri-State Hospital affiliates
- 450,000 listeners
- 150 volunteer broadcasters

Financing Sought

\$1M seed, \$3M growth

Use of Funds

- To provide continued secure operations
- To develop future programs and services
- To expand service to a greater audience

Founded in 2009

Type of Entity: 501 (c)(3)

Gatewave Basics

- Gatewave is a nationally-recognized audio information service that broadcasts daily, weekly, and monthly print media to blind and visually-impaired persons, as well as others who have difficulty reading print as a result of physical and/or cognitive condition or injury.
- Broadcasting more than 100 newspapers and magazines, featuring local, national and worldwide news, health education, arts and leisure; available via radio and Internet 24 hours each day, 365 days a year.
- Special programming features a wide spectrum of issues-based rehabilitation and wellness programming.
- Gatewave reaches people in their homes, workplaces, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and assisted-living communities.
- Gatewave is the only service of its kind in the greater NYC area.
- Service to one listener costs less than \$10 a year, after an initial expense of \$90 for a specially-tuned radio; one hour of programming is less than \$400.

Company Background

- Gatewave was established in 2009 via generous grants from Open Society Institute and others, replacing a now-defunct service that served the disabled community for 31 years.
- Incorporated under the name “The Radio Reading Project, Inc.” but operating on-air as Gatewave.

Audience Demographics and Opportunity

- There are 10 million U.S. citizens who are blind or vision-impaired, according to the National Federation of the Blind; 5.5 million are seniors.
- The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that more than one million Americans are legally blind and 12 million are visually impaired.
- As Baby Boomers age, the number of blind and visually-impaired people will double by 2030.
- Others, with disabilities such as cancer, muscular disease, dyslexia, physical motor impairments, or AIDS, comprise a significantly-larger, potential audience
- Audience expansion targets include educational institutions, vision-care professionals, social service agencies, and state and local agencies.
- A station membership model will help provide service to more listeners, regardless of financial ability.
- Gatewave will become the source for emergency information and jobs, housing and medical benefits for New York City’s handicapped.

Technology

- Local listeners receive programming via sub-carrier FM signal provided by WKCR, Columbia University.
- National listeners receive our signal and programming through a network of 60+ affiliate stations in 28 states.
- Hospitals offer direct feed of Gatewave into their patient-TV units.
- Copyright permissions are waived under The Americans For Disabilities Act.
- Gatewave is developing alternative delivery options (live internet stream, podcast, HD radio, others) to reach a larger audience.

Competition

- Gatewave is the only service of its kind for the NYC area.
- Print reading technology can enlarge text, but is a costly option.
- Newsline (telephone service) provides limited newspaper/magazine reading, but does so via synthetic voice.

Type of Organization

- Gatewave is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization, funded solely by individual donors, charitable gifts, grants and similar financial contributions.
- Gatewave is also the beneficiary of management seasoned in the delivery of broadcast services to the handicapped, and over 150 volunteer broadcasters who are responsible for delivering the content.