

What would you miss most if you lost your sight? Research says reading a newspaper tops the list! That's where we help.

Each day, every day, volunteer readers at **READING FOR LIFE RADIO** bring words to life over the radio.

"Every morning, I get up early. I turn on the radio, keeping it close with the volume low. In the darkened house, I sit huddled over the receiver, drinking coffee and eating a small breakfast. READING FOR LIFE RADIO is a warm, comforting presence. It is audible proof that others care and wish me well; not only my family and friends, but an entire network of people. I don't know what I would do without you."

Dr. J. Fontenot, Mobile, AL

A growing number of people, largely the aging senior population, are losing the ability to read. This can lead to isolation.

READING FOR LIFE RADIO is committed to deliver the joy and benefit of reading, increasing our listener's capacity to lead a full and productive life.

"Thank you so very much for letting me hear what my eyes cannot see."

Thelma R. Nagler, NYC

Almost everyone knows someone with diminishing sight: a friend, a neighbor, a parent. Vision impairments, physical and cognitive disabilities, and numerous health conditions can reduce one's ability to use printed materials like newspapers, magazines, voter guides, advertisements and flyers.

Yes, I would like to help continue the mission of READING FOR LIFE RADIO.

Donor Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

I would like to contribute \$ _____

to READING FOR LIFE RADIO.

READING FOR LIFE RADIO is a service of The Radio Reading Project, Inc.

Your contact information including email address will only be used by The Radio Reading Project, Inc. for communications with you. We will not distribute this information to any other organizations. We anticipate producing an email newsletter and print newsletter to keep you apprised of our progress. If you do not wish to receive communication via email, please check this box. ☐

On behalf of our audience, thank you.

**READING FOR LIFE RADIO,
The Radio Reading Project, Inc.
c/o Xavier Society for the Blind
154 East 23rd Street
New York, New York 10010**



Reading For Life Radio

Reading for Life Radio brings printed matter to life for millions of people throughout the United States with vision or reading disabilities, affording them independence, dignity and enrichment, through the use of innovative technology and dedicated volunteer readers



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Mission and Purpose

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Created to continue the nearly 35 year old mission of In Touch Networks which closed its doors this year, **READING FOR LIFE RADIO** volunteers work tirelessly to fill the information void in the lives of the blind, visually impaired and disabled.

Approximately 9.2 million people who have vision loss live in a large metropolitan area

READING FOR LIFE RADIO is the only service of its kind in the New York metropolitan area.

READING FOR LIFE RADIO embraces its mission to expand knowledge, educate, inform and culturally enlighten.

Being uninformed is a serious handicap. It hinders one's ability to make common everyday decisions.

READING FOR LIFE RADIO is dedicated to provide the information needed to alleviate isolation and provide vital social connections to the blind, physically disabled and cognitively disabled Americans it reaches across 28 states.

In a statement before the World Intellectual Property Organization Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR) a U.S. representative stated...

"Everyone with a visual impairment, physical disability or learning disability has a right to equal access to all forms of information available to the general public. The United States believes profoundly, in the words of our Supreme Court, that copyright law is 'the engine of free expression' and has committed to policies that ensure that everyone has a chance to get the information and education they need to live independently as full citizens in their communities."

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Who Are We?

READING FOR LIFE RADIO is a free, closed circuit radio reading service. We provide special receivers to our audience who, because of their disability, cannot read what our volunteers' can see. Our volunteer broadcasters read the content from over 100 newspapers and magazines including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Business Week, Cat Fancy, Dog Fancy, and People.

We broadcast 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

We distribute our programming – free – to individual listeners in the New York City tri-state area, at the patient bedside of more than 60 hospitals and skilled nursing facilities, in assisted living facilities and to listeners in 28 states through more than 50 affiliated stations.

Who Listens?

Any person who is unable to see, hold or comprehend print matter because of a disability may apply to **READING FOR LIFE RADIO** for service.

READING FOR LIFE RADIO serves over 750,000 weekly listeners nationwide. Our audience is as diverse as our population and there are many reasons they have lost their ability to read or hold printed matter. They may lose their sight through age-related macular degeneration, diabetes, or other types of age-related eye diseases. They may have had a stroke, or accident, or are undergoing a medical treatment that leaves them too weak to concentrate. They may have a muscular condition such as cerebral palsy or multiple sclerosis. They may suffer from debilitating arthritis. After a lifetime of reading, the sudden and dramatic loss of being able to independently peruse a newspaper, magazine or book can be devastating.

Who Reads The Programs?

There are more than 150 volunteer readers who devote their time and voices to **READING FOR LIFE RADIO**. They are teachers and students, lawyers and business people. Many of them are professional actors and voice-over artists.

Though you may not know their names, you will certainly recognize their voices, Les Marshak whose voice is heard on NBC's Today Show is a volunteer reader.

And, though not an active reader, you may hear the voice of legendary radio broadcaster Cousin Brucie (Bruce Morrow) who is a long-time supporter and board advisor to **READING FOR LIFE RADIO**.

We Need Your Help!

Your gift to **READING FOR LIFE RADIO** will help provide the joy and benefit of reading to those who cannot.

There are real costs to providing this radio reading service. Broadcast facilities must be maintained. Satellite services come with a monthly charge. There are electric and telephone bills.

This year, our operating budget will exceed \$1 million dollars. With your generous support we can continue this vital service and build the next generation of radio reading.

READING FOR LIFE RADIO was formed when our volunteers and small staff decided that this vital service should not be allowed to die. With no assets other than the hard work of our volunteers, we have continued this service without interruption. Our only commitment is to continue to bring this vital service to hundreds of thousands of listeners who depend on us to maintain their connection to the world.

Won't you consider supporting this vitally important, free service?

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Tax Deductible donations can be made to The Xavier Society for the Blind for Radio Reading Fund.

For further information Call:

Gail Starkey at 917-468-2105