Be an Oklahoma Telephone Reader Volunteer

You can make a difference

Image: Oklahoma Telephone Reader logo

Image: Man wearing headset and recording newspaper stories into the OTR system using a telephone.

Page 1

What is Oklahoma Telephone Reader?

The Oklahoma Telephone Reader is an on-demand dial-up information service of the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Seven days a week, volunteers record articles from daily newspapers and other publications into the OTR system. These articles become digital files accessible through the telephone to anyone signed up for the service.

OTR content includes news, editorials, sports, grocery advertisements, obituaries and a variety of other information not normally available on radio or television. The OTR system is intended for use by anyone with a disability that prevents them from reading standard printed material.

Try it out

Call 1-855-887-6397 or 405-522-1896.

After system answers, dial 5555 then enter 1 for publications.

Follow the instructions

Image: OTR logo

Image: Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services logo

Image: OTR volunteer recording newspaper grocery store ads into the system.

Page 2

What our volunteers do:

Image: Man sitting down to record some stories for OTR.

Make a difference. Become a volunteer.

Volunteering is a rewarding experience that enriches the lives of fellow Oklahomans who are blind or have visual impairments.

Oklahoma Telephone Reader volunteers work to ensure that a wide variety of publications are accessible to patrons who have signed up for the service.

Seven days a week volunteers record articles from “The Oklahoman,” “Tulsa World” and other publications into the OTR system.

Page 3

The volunteers can record at the library, from their work place or from their home telephone. If using a cell phone, volunteers are asked to call in so that the quality of their connection can be evaluated.

The amount of time a volunteer dedicates to the service is flexible, but every hour spent working for the service, helps open up the world to our library patrons.

Image: DRS logo

Image: Oklahoma Telephone Reader logo

Image: Man looking over sports stories before beginning to record.

Page 4

Image: OTR volunteer records newspaper stories into the OTR system using a phone.

If you would like to volunteer to be a reader for OTR, please contact our staff:

Becky Bates - Phone: (405) 522-0978

Email: rbates@okdrs.gov

Steve Dowdy

Phone: (405) 522-0518

Email: sdowdy@okdrs.gov

Page 5

Image: DRS Logo

Make a Difference. Become a Volunteer.

Image: Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

300 NE 18th Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73105

405-521-3514 Voice, 1-800-523-0288 Toll Free Voice

405-521-4672 TTY/TTD 405-521-4582 Fax

DRS Pub. #15-12 Date: April 2015

This publication is authorized by the Oklahoma Commission for Rehabilitation Services in accordance with state and federal regulations and printed by the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services at cost of $326.82 for 1,000 copies. This publication is available on the DRS website. DRS offices may request copies via Compass. For additional copies, contact DRS Central Departmental Services at (405) 951-3400 or 800-845-8476 toll free

Page 6