AMERICAN COUNCIL OF THE BLIND

Web Site Administrative Team

Scope of Work - October 2011

Overview:

The American Council of the Blind is a nationally recognized 501(C3) organization made up of over 12,000 members, the majority of whom are blind or visually impaired. Our web site is <http://www.acb.org> and is currently administered by one contract employee and several volunteers.

People who are blind and visually impaired access the internet in a number of ways, using adaptive technology such as screen readers and voice synthesis, print enlarging programs, braille display devices and features native to the operating system. People access our web site using a variety of platforms including various versions of Windows, the range of Aple products, smart phones and dedicated adaptive PDA devices with refreshable braille output. Blind and visually impaired people also have a wide range of technical ability and familiarity with their adaptive devices and accessibility features native to their operating system of choice. This means that it is essential for our web site to meet accessibility standards and be tested with a variety of adaptive equipment and platforms for maximum “user-friendliness”.

In 2009 we began the process of redesigning the web site to be more visually appealing and better organized to meet the needs of those seeking information about our organization and sight loss resources. In 2010 we began working with the Drupal content manaagement system with the expectation that it would allow for more people to post content to the site, thus enabling us to keep content current.

As our team began to work with this program, we found that though it was the best fit for our needs, we lacked the knowledge to efficiently craft the features of the site we had set out in our plans. We upgraded to Drupal 7.0 in the spring of 2011 to address some concerns but doing so has proven problematic. We are currently seeking a contractor who can work with our team to implement some of our design features efficiently with a focus on stability and ease of maintenance.

Current Technology:

Software: Drupal 7.0

Primary Theme: Bartik

E-commerce: Authorize.net

Scope of Work:

* Work with the existing Web Site Administration Team to implement redesign features, updates and continuing enhancements to the site at http://www.acb.org.
* Provide enhancements as specified by our initial task force, through use of a Drupal subtheme, to meet the need for accessibility to those with low vision. (See attachment for specifications.)
* Provide an accessible “Donation” button and system for registering and processing on-line donations, including features to allow for category selection or text input to specify the donation.
* Provide adjustments to themes, page layouts and other structures to allow text placement for ease of reading by screen reader users.
* Provide forms for a variety of needs (scholarship applications, convention registration, walk-a-thon fund raising, etc.), using the donation processing button and infrastructure.
* Provide training for staff and volunteers as authorized by the initial Web site Task Force, to add content to parts of the site, including documents, links, photos and other graphics.

For More Information:

If you possess the skills to meet this scope of work, please contact Jenine Stanley, jeninems@wowway.com to submit a proposal.