

Issues and Programs Report

for

**WTZI**

88.1 FM Rosemont, Illinois

1st Quarter 2024

## **Description of WTZI**

RadioEd, a Illinois 501(c)(3) entity, has been the owner of WTZI (Rosemont, Illinois) since April 2022. WTZI is in the process of improving its broadcasting capabilities.

WTZI obtained the Internet capability via Verizon Wireless in January 2023 for the remote control of the radio station and equipment, as well as the Internet radio streaming. WTZI is currently upgrading its broadcasting functions, including the radio station equipment's software system.

RadioEd is committed to utilize WTZI to raise awareness of Indian culture by building a strong community through Indian music and languages, outreach, and education.

Indian culture has not been broadcast to listeners in the local community, particularly in the state of Illinois. Most American public does not have exposure to, and a good knowledge of, Indian music or Indian languages because they are foreign to American.

The American public should be afforded the opportunity to hear and be educated on Indian languages and different genres and types of Indian music. The promotion of Indian culture can have the effect of eliminating prejudice and discrimination from non-Indians in the Indian community. Classical Indian music also has a soothing effect on listeners and lessens community tensions.

Chicago's northwestern suburb has a large Indian community of more than two hundred thousand individuals and families. Having a radio station that devotes to broadcasting Indian languages and music, prevents deterioration in the local Indian community and raises awareness of the Indian culture to the next generation growing up in the Chicago suburb. The more the American public is educated on Indian culture, the more it may foster creativity and fusion of new music, accommodation of foreign languages, and proper understanding for the next generation of Indian and non-Indian communities.

## Description of Programming

WTZI is currently spreading awareness of Indian culture through radio broadcasting of Indian music and the reading of the Bible in Hindi language and other Indian dialogues. The broadcasting programs consist of the following:

- 1) Indian music -- Music is a great way to understand culture. There are many different instruments, languages, and styles of music in Indian culture. RadioEd plays a diverse set of Indian music each week.

The music content will include classical, regional, and contemporary genres of various Indian artists:

- a) the classical Indian music would be the music of Sitar and Tabla (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdBDUXV6x6c>);
  - b) the regional Indian music would be music from the southern, northern, and eastern regions of India. Northern Indian music can be heard from the link that follows. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TktWQbsgcw>); and
  - c) the contemporary genre of Indian music would be music from Bollywood, contemporary dance, or Indian pop culture. For example, the Bollywood music of Ramji Ki Chal can be heard from the link follows. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slooFGRBZJY>).
- 2) Bible reading in Hindi language -- Introducing Hindi language in our program can provide a sense comfort to our listeners of India origin hearing their native language, as well as generate curiosity on the Hindi language to our non-Hindi public listeners. RadioEd will play a few hours of the Bible reading in Hindi language each week.
    - a) Hindi reading of the Gospel of John for example (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5AmuY39-Y>);

WTZI plans to add other programs that promote Indian culture in Indian dialogues through short stories and fables, language instructions, as well as Indian and local news.

WTZI also plans to discuss its contents and collect feedback from the local community. As a result, WTZI may evolve the proportion of its educational contents to serve its audience. WTZI will have a mix of contents produced by its own and broadcast other professional recordings.

The criteria WTZI uses when determining what content to broadcast are as follows: 1) whether the content fits its mission in promoting and spreading cultural awareness of Indian culture, 2) whether the content can be produced within WTZI's budget, and 3) whether the content receives popular demand and/or positive feedback from the local community.

## Issues and Programs

Below is a description of the issues and the programs covered by WTZI in Rosemont, Illinois for the first quarter of 2024. WTZI has not received any financial reimbursement for broadcasting and is adhering to its mission to promote Indian culture through various programs.

| Description of Issue  | Program/Segment              | Date                              | Time  | Duration  | Narration of Type and Description of Program/Segment   |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Promoting Indian culture and awareness of various Indian music              | Royalty-free Indian Music    | January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024 | Approximately 12:00 am (morning), 8:00 am (afternoon), 4:00 pm (evening).     | Approximately 5 to 6 hours of various Indian music is played and repeated continuously, 24 hours 7 days a week        | Indian music that is primarily made up of classical and instrumental genres, incorporating Sitar and Tabla instruments for soothing effects on listeners and showcasing different types of Indian music. |
| Promoting Indian culture and awareness through Hindi language Bible reading | Hindi Language Bible reading | January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024 | Approximately 6:00 am (morning), 2:00 pm (afternoon), and 10:00 pm (evening). | Approximately 2 hours of the Hindi language Bible reading is played and repeated continuously, 24 hours 7 days a week | Reading in Hindi language provides comfort to our listeners of India origin hearing their native language, as well as generates curiosity on the Hindi language to our non-Hindi listeners.              |

Station Manager: Anuraag Tripathi