Changing Lives

EagleEyes is an innovative eye-controlled technology that helps children and adults with profound physical disabilities interact and learn by using the computer. Electrodes are placed above and below the dominate eye and on both temples to magnify the electrical signal of the eye and convert it into the mouse cursor.

Opportunity Foundation of America
Vision Statement
To improve the quality of life for children and adults with severe physical disabilites and their families, through recreation, communication and education

WHAT IS EagleEyes?

EagleEyes was developed at Boston College by Computer Science Professor Jim Gips. The technology is primarily for children and adults with severe special needs. These individuals are most often non-verbal, paralyzed, and at most have a YES/NO method of communicating or are completely locked-in.

HOW DOES EagleEyes WORK?

Basically, the mouse pointer follows the location that the user is looking at on the screen and the eyes replace the mouse. Each selection is made by looking at a small area of the screen for a short period of time, which causes a mouse click. Usable with any commerical software, EagleEyes is a general mouse replacement that is based on measuring a user's EOG, or the electro-oculographic potential which indicates the position of the eyes relative to the head.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED?

In 2005, The Opportunity Foundation of America began a partnership with the Boston College EagleEyes Project and signed a formal license agreement to manufacture, distribute and provide training for the technology. Currently there are 111 EagleEyes systems distributed in the US, in universities, schools, non-profit organizations and individual homes.

EagleEyes is manufactured in Salt Lake City, Utah and costs are $1,200 per system.

THE FUTURE FOR EagleEyes

There are thousands of children and adults in the United States who could benefit from EagleEyes. Expanding the distribution of this great technology to meet the need is dependent upon generous donations and grants from private foundations.

HOW CAN ORGANIZATIONS HELP?

- REFERRALS
- VOLUNTEERS
- FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Kate's Story

We are thrilled about the EagleEyes technology we were recently able to get for our sweet little daughter Kate. Kate was born with undiagnosed brain damage that started some time in the womb. After many consultations with doctors after her birth, the doctors were unable to determine what caused the injury but feel that it may possibly be a rare genetic disorder. Because of the injury to her brain, Kate currently has multiple disabilities. She is unable to walk or or use her hands, arms, or legs for function, and is confined to a wheelchair. She is also unable to communicate verbally, although her vision has improved since birth. Kate is a happy three year old girl, but has challenges that keep her from enjoying activities that her siblings and other children enjoy.

Last year, we were able to watch the "Turning Point" documentary on BYU TV and learn about EagleEyes and the amazing technology that it is for children like Kate. And just recently, we received our own EagleEyes for Kate. It is amazing to watch her be intrigued and pay attention by the games and the music and the scenes on the computer. The first time we hooked it up to her to see if she would enjoy it, she spent a whole hour focusing and being thrilled by the system. This kind of attention from Kate was not something that we were able to see before! It was very touching to see it bring such joy to our little daughter. We look forward to the future with the EagleEyes Program and what it may hold for Kate, and for the chance that she will have to play everyday on her system.

We are thankful for those who love children with disabilities, and see them as the amazing people that they are, and who have helped develop this amazing technology to improve their quality of life. What a blessing EagleEyes is!

If you would like more information please contact Debbie Inkley,
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