**Explanatory Statement
O&M instructors using 3D printed street crossings**

**Project title**: 3D Printing to Improve Access to Graphics by People with Vision Impairments

**Project number**: 18075

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You are invited to take part in this study. Please read this Explanatory Statement in full before deciding whether to take part in this research. If you would like further information regarding any aspect of this research, you are encouraged to contact the project investigators using the details listed above.

# What does the research involve?

This project aims to transform the provision of accessible graphics within Australia by exploring 3D printing as a new method for conveying graphics through touch. Monash University is partnering with Guide Dogs Victoria, RSB, Round Table and others to investigate the use of 3D printing to create accessible maps for orientation and mobility. In this study, we are looking at the creation of 3D maps to teach concepts for street crossings.

Part A: You are invited to take part in a brief interview to discuss how you teach street crossings. The interview should take around 30 minutes and will be audio recorded if you agree.

Part B: You are invited to use 3D printed street crossings as part of your training sessions. The 3D models will be provided by the research team. It is up to you how you use the models. If you and your client agree, we would ask for these sessions to be audio or video recorded. Sessions can be conducted remotely in line with social distancing requirements and materials will be sanitised and quarantined before use. After the session, you are invited to speak with the researchers about the experience. The interview will be conducted remotely and should take around 20 minutes. It will be audio recorded if you agree.

# Why were you selected for this study?

You were selected for this study as you work in Orientation and Mobility for people with vision impairments and you are working with one of the project partner organisations: Guide Dogs Victoria, The Royal Society for the Blind, a member of the Round Table on Information Access for People with Print Disabilities, or the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

# What COVID safety measures are in place?

The 3D printed materials will be sanitised before being given to you.

In line with Monash University COVID safety practices, we would like to request that hand sanitiser be used before and after you or your clients touch the models. Models can also be washed in warm soapy water between uses. Do not use hot water as this may melt the models!

We would also like to ask that government guidelines for physical distancing and wearing of masks be followed when you are using the study materials with your clients.

Monash University has a set of pre-session screening questions to check for potential COVID-19 contact or symptoms. These questions can be provided for your use.

# Consent and withdrawal

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary. Even if you agree to take part in the study, you can withdraw your permission at any time and any material collected up that time will be discarded.

Participation in this study is not a workplace requirement. You may use the 3D printed materials being offered without participating in the study. Your inclusion or exclusion in the study will be known only by the researchers; it does not need to be shared with your workplace managers or colleagues.

# Source of funding

This research is funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Project LP170100026, with support from the Department of Education and Training Victoria, Round Table on Information Access for People with Print Disabilities, Inc., South Pacific Educators in Vision Impairment, Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children, Guide Dogs Victoria and the Royal Society for the Blind.

# Possible benefits

Participants may benefit from the research through the use of 3D printed objects for orientation and mobility training.

The project aims to benefit the low vision community by supporting the use of 3D printed models for improved access to graphics.

# Potential risks

This research involves minimal risks.

All materials used are non-toxic and 3D prints will be checked to ensure there are no sharp edges.

Models with small parts should not be given to children under the age of 3 as they may pose a choking hazard.

# Confidentiality

Your participation in this study will not be made known to others and your details will remain confidential.

Results will be published in aggregated form so that individual participants cannot be identified.

# Storage of data

Data relating to the project will be retained for a minimum of five years, in accordance with research requirements. The raw data will be stored in a secure location able to be accessed only by the research team.

After it is no longer required, all data will be destroyed in a secure manner.

# Results

Results of the study and overall project will be published through academic and professional journals and conferences, and be used to form the basis of guidelines to be published by Round Table.

Notification of publications will be made available at [accessiblegraphics.org](http://accessiblegraphics.org) and results will be made available on request.

# Complaints

Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, you are welcome to contact the Executive Officer, Monash University Human Research Ethics (MUHREC):

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| Executive OfficerMonash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC) Room 111, Building 3eResearch OfficeMonash University VIC 3800Tel: +61 3 9905 2052Email: muhrec@monash.eduFax: +61 3 9905 3831 |

Thank you,



Leona Holloway

# Further contacts

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