PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM

Title: Pets for people with intellectual disability

This is an information sheet about a research project looking into pets for people with intellectual disability.

The research project is being done by our inclusive research team.

This means there are university researchers and researchers with intellectual disability on our research team. We work together to do the research.

The person in charge of our research is:

Felicity Crowther

She is a PhD student with the College of Nursing & Health Sciences at Flinders University

0404 794 052

brow0650@flinders.edu.au
The people helping with the research are:

**Fiona Rillotta**  
She works at Flinders University. She is supervising the research to make sure it is done well.

(08) 82012108  
fiona.rillotta@flinders.edu.au

**Rachel High**  
She is a co-researcher with intellectual disability

**Mary Whitford**  
She is a co-researcher with intellectual disability

**Hannah Beinke**  
She is a co-researcher with intellectual disability

**Chloe Russell**  
She is a co-researcher with intellectual disability

All of the people who are part of the research team work in the disability sector or use services in the disability sector.  
If you decide to participate in the research you might know some of the research team. You need to think about if you are comfortable sharing your experiences and ideas with people you might know.
What this study is about?

This research project will look at pets for people with intellectual disability.

This project is supported by Flinders University, College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Why we are doing this research?

We want to know:

• What are the good things about having a pet?
• What are the bad things about having a pet?
• What makes it difficult to have a pet?

How will this research help?

By being part of the research you will help us to learn:

• Why pets might be important to people with intellectual disability
• The responsibilities of having a pet
• What makes it difficult to have a pet
• About your experiences of having or wanting a pet
This information will help us to:

- Know more about pets for people with intellectual disability
- Find out what people with intellectual disability need to learn to have a pet
- Teach government, service providers and families about people with intellectual disability having pets

What are we asking you to do?

If you agree to be part of the research study, you will be asked to:

- Be part of a focus group with other people with intellectual disability
  Or
- Do an interview with a researcher

The focus groups will take about 1-2 hours.

The interview will take about 30 minutes-1 hour.
You can bring a support person you trust if you want to.
We will write up what you say during the interview.
We will ask you to check that you agree that what we have written up is right.
It is your choice to be part of the research. You do not have to be part of the research.

**Possible Risks – What could be bad about being part of the research?**

You will need to get your own transport to the focus group or interview. We will give $10 to go towards the cost of your transport.

It will take up some of your time to be part of the focus group or interview.

You would be volunteering to be part of the research project. This means you will not be paid for your time.

If you have had bad experiences with having or wanting a pet the questions we ask could be upsetting.

If you do feel upset or uncomfortable from being part of the research you should let the research team know straight away.

You can also talk to someone you trust like a family member or support worker.
<Insert name of organisation sharing info sheet> has shared information about our project with you. If you feel upset or comfortable you can contact <insert name of contact from organisation, phone number and email>

If you are feeling upset about the services you get through the NDIS you can contact the NDIS Quality & Safeguards Commission by calling 1800 035 544.

You can also contact the following services for support:

- Lifeline – 13 11 14
  www.lifeline.org.au

- Beyond Blue – 1300 22 4636,
  www.beyondblue.org.au

Can I stop being part of the research?

You can say no to being part of this study at any time.

You do not have to answer every question.

To stop being part of the study talk to the research team. If you stop being part of the study we will get rid of any information you gave us.

We might not be able to get rid of information we record during focus group discussions.
How will we keep your information private?
Only researchers who are part of this study can see your information.

We will keep your information private at all times.

We will not talk about your information outside of this research.

We may use your information as part of our research for:
• Conferences/Talks
• Written up for publication. This means we might write articles about it.
• Videos, Easy Read Fact sheets or other easy to understand ways of sharing the research

We will not name you when we share information unless you say it is ok.

We will not use any of your information for future research unless you say it is ok.

It is important to know that others may know you have participated in the research if they see you with the researcher.
How we will keep your information safe?

We will keep your information on a computer that has a password.

We will not keep your personal details on the information we keep.

Your information needs to be kept for five years if you finish the study. After five years your information will be destroyed.

How will we let you know how the research goes?

At the end of the research we will send you an Easy Read report about what we find out.

Ethics Committee Approval

Our research has ethics approval. This means it has been checked over to make sure we are doing it right and safely.

The ethics committee that approved our research is Flinders University’s Human Research Ethics Committee (insert project number here).
Queries and Concerns – Questions

If you have any questions about this research you can contact the research team.

If you think we are not doing the research right or safely you can contact the Flinders University’s Research Ethics & Compliance Office team via telephone 08 8201 3116 or email human.researchethics@flinders.edu.au.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet

If you want to be involved, please sign the Consent Form.
CONSENT FORM

Consent Statement

Giving your consent to being part of the research means you understand what this information and you agree to be part of the research.

Please tick if you agree with the statements below:

☐ Yes  ☐ No  I have an intellectual disability.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  I am 18 years old or over.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  I have a pet or would like to have a pet.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  I have read and understood the information about the research.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  I understand it is my choice to be part of this research study.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  I understand that I can contact the research team if I have questions about this research study.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  There is nothing stopping me from being part of this research, and I agree to participate in this project.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  I understand that I don’t have to be part of this research and that I can stop being part of the research at any time.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  I understand that I can contact Flinders University’s Research Ethics & Compliance Office if I have any complaints or think this research is not being done right or safely.
☐ Yes  ☐ No  I understand that I won’t be named in this research, but that the information collected may be published or written about. I understand that I will not be named in any research products.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  I understand that if I stop being part of the research but have been part of a focus group my information will still be used. I will not be named though.

I also agree to:

☐ Yes  ☐ No  Participating in an interview

Or

☐ Yes  ☐ No  Participating in a Focus Group.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  Having my information audio recorded.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  Sharing data that does not have my name on it with someone who will type up notes from the focus group or interviews.

Signed:

Name:

Date:

Phone Number:

Please return your completed consent form to brow0650@flinders.edu.au
If you need help to complete the consent form you can call Felicity on 0404794052. Once you’ve returned the consent form someone from the research team will contact you about participating in the research.