

# Living Safely

with disabilities and special health needs

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## Crossing the Street

When you need to cross a street, use a crosswalk. Crosswalks are usually on the end of a sidewalk on the corner. If a street does not have a crosswalk, always cross at the corner of the street.

Most crosswalks are painted lines on a street to show you where to cross. The lines might be stripes for you to walk or roll from one side of the street to another. The lines might also be two long lines for you to walk between.

Sometimes there are traffic lights on the corners. When you face the traffic light, the color of the light indicates whether you should walk or stop. A green light means to go. A red light means to stop. Always be aware of vehicles that are turning at the corner.

Sometimes there are electric signs that are on poles. These electric signs have images, words, or sounds to signal when it is time to cross the street. This type of sign may have a button to press when you want to cross. Wait until the sign indicates when it is time to cross.

Sometimes there are crossing guards at crosswalks. They help people cross the street, especially busy roadways. Follow the instructions given by a crossing guard.

It is very important to check for oncoming vehicles every time you are about to walk or roll across a street. Look to your left, then to your right, then to your left again.

A driver may be distracted or looking somewhere else and may not see you. It is helpful to make eye contact with the driver and wave before crossing. Be sure vehicles around you have stopped completely.

If you can't see clearly on both sides of the street, it is not a safe place to cross. Avoid crossing from in between vehicles, trees, and other things that would prevent a driver from seeing you.

Always stay aware when crossing a street. Once you have started crossing the street, remain focused until you reach the other side. Never use the phone or text while crossing a street because it can distract you.

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We value the expertise of our partners in safety who have demonstrated their commitment to inclusive healthy communities.

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