iOS and Android Apps for Blind Users

When considering the most appropriate device for an individual with a visual impairment, it is important to determine the level of vision that person has. If one will access the device using only Voice Over auditorily, and not use the images on the screen, you should consider a smaller device such as an iPHONE, iPod Touch or Android phone. For individuals who will use their vision to assist in accessing the touch screen, one might consider an iPAD, iPAD Mini or tablet running Android. Also, one should determine the desired tasks the iOS or Android device will be used for. If you want to use the device for watching videos, you will likely like a larger screen; however, if you plan to utilize the camera to access apps to help with identification, you might want a smaller device that you can use to more easily take pictures with the camera. For a totally blind user, it is important to note that using a smaller screen is much easier. There is less distance between icons and items on the screen. It is much easier to move around the screen and find the information you need.

Apps available for iOS and Android devices can help blind individuals accomplish many tasks that were once only available by using a multitude of expensive equipment. Below is a list of several different types of apps that can accomplish various tasks. Often there are several different apps that claim to accomplish similar tasks. Some of these apps are free, and others are paid apps. Some of the paid apps are somewhat expensive, while others are only a few dollars and well worth the investment for the price. Individuals can explore the options and determine what works best for them.

Learning Voice Over:

LookTell VoiceOver Tutorial

VoiceOver Easy

Get Started on Android with Talk Back

Book Reading Apps:

iBooks - iOS

Read2Go-iOS

Go Read - Android

Voice Dream - Reader - Android and iOS

BARD Mobile - Android and iOS

Learning Ally – Android and iOS

<u>Audible.com</u> – Android and iOS

Reading Text:

KNFB Reader- Android and iOS

Voice Cam - Android

Voice Cam - iOS

Prizmo - iOS

<u>Text Detective</u> – Android and iOS

Seeing AI - iOS

Color Identification:

Color ID - Android

Color ID - iOS

Color Grab – Android

Color Capture- iOS

Money Identification:

EyeNOTE – iOS

Ideal U.S. Currency Identifier - Android

LookTell Money Reader - iOS

Object Identification:

<u>TapTapSee</u> – Android

<u>TapTapSee</u> - iOS

VizWiz - Android

<u>VizWiz</u> - iOS

Be My Eyes - Android and iOS

CamFind – Android and iOS

GPS Apps for Navigation and Identification of Nearby Locations:

Nearby Explorer - Android and iOS

Seeing Eye GPS - iOS

BlindSquare - iOS

Sendero GPS LookAround - Android and iOS

AroundMe – Android and iOS

OverThere - iOS

Bar Code Scanners for Identification:

<u>Digit-Eyes</u> – iOS

Bar Code Scanner - Android

Magnification:

Magnifier, Magnifying Glass - Android

SuperVision Plus Magnifier - iOS

Braille Input:

MBraille Android and iOS

Note Taking & Word Processing:

Access Note - iOS

<u>AudioNote</u> – Android and iOS

<u>Voice Dream - Writer</u> – iOS

VO Calendar - iOS

Blindness Information and Pod Casts:

Access World

AIRSLA

Blind Bargains

Sero Talk

NFB

NFB Kentucky

NFB Kentucky Technology Assistance Division

Vision Connect

News and Information:

NFB-Newsline®

National Braille Press:

NBP offers several publications specifically for iOS with specific instruction on how to utilize the many facets of the iPhone's features for blind users. These publications can be found on the NBP web site at www.nbp.org.

It is important to note that apps are frequently being updated and changed. Some apps listed may no longer be available due to some App Developers not keeping up with updates in the Android and iOS operating system.