

## **MAMAS Projects Needing Help**

**Last Updated: 1/25/2023 at 7:00PM**

Are you looking to get more involved in MAMAS but not sure where to plug in?  
Are you a MAMAS coordinator looking for help on a project or people to fill a role?  
Look no further!

Listed below are postings for ways to get involved in MAMAS projects. Each posting includes a short description including weekly time commitment estimate and any skills/knowledge required and contact information for someone to follow up with your team.

Postings are organized by the type of interaction you're comfortable with: in-person, virtual, or hybrid of in-person and virtual.

If you have questions, see a misspelling, or have general feedback about this document, email [askyourmamas@gmail.com](mailto:askyourmamas@gmail.com) with the email subject line "project postings document."

Link Shortcuts - click the link below to be brought directly to open postings by working group (wg)

Ways to get involved - Virtual help

- [help with hotline callbacks \(#wg-hotline\)](#)
- [help re-distribute cash to those in need of support \(#wg-money\)](#)
- [help recruit new neighbors to MAMAS \(#MMM project\)](#)
- [help re-write content for the website \(#tech\)](#)
- [Help us re-start the MAMAS newsletter \(#wg-communications\)](#)
- [help with garden-related logistics \(#food-sovereignty\)](#)

Ways to get involved - In-person/Hybrid of in-person or virtual

- [pair with a neighbor who needs regular grocery shopping help \(#wg-delivery\)](#)
- [help with supermarket sweep day \(#wg-delivery\)](#)
- [reach out to your pod](#), if it's active, and offer to help plan a neighborhood gathering this summer (search your address on the [pod map](#) to zoom in)
- [help with garden tasks or garden management \(#food-sovereignty\)](#)

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## **POSTINGS**

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### **Help redistribute money to a neighbor in need (Virtual Help)**

Become a money redistributor: Help the money team redistribute monetary donations

- **Background:** Money redistribution is an easy way to get started with MAMAS and learn about ways to support our neighbors. MAMAS needs more money distributors because our fiscal sponsor limits money disbursement to \$5,000 per individual per year. That's about 16 transactions per year.
  - **Responsibilities:** Distributors send \$300 to neighbors who have requested financial assistance. You can do this via Venmo, Cashapp, or gift card (we will let you know). **Every transaction is reimbursed** through our fiscal sponsor's platform, [OpenCollective](#). The turnaround time for reimbursement (a direct deposit into your bank account) is ~2-4 days. Process: A MAMAS coordinator would send you the payment app username, phone number, or address of a neighbor about once a week (or whichever frequency you're comfortable with). You send the money/card to the requestor and then upload a screenshot of the receipt/transaction to OpenCollective using this link: <https://opencollective.com/mamas/projects/cash-assistance/expenses/new>
  - **Skills needed:** A smart phone and Venmo account, or Cashapp account
  - **Time commitment:** 10 minutes per money distribution
  - **If interested, contact:** Email [askyourmamas@gmail.com](mailto:askyourmamas@gmail.com) and ask for 'money working group'
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### **Supermarket Sweep Day: Buy/drop off a grocery gift card to a neighbor in need (In Person Help)**

Seeking volunteers to help purchase and deliver grocery gift cards for 'Supermarket Sweep Day'

- **Background:** Every six weeks, the grocery/delivery working group hosts "Supermarket Sweep Day" at the Stop and Shop near McGrath Highway. Members purchase a grocery gift card in the amount of \$200 to \$300 and then drop off the card to the household in need. **Every transaction is reimbursable** through our fiscal sponsor's platform, [OpenCollective](#). The turnaround time for reimbursement (a direct deposit into your bank account) is ~2-4 days.
- **Responsibilities:** Purchase and delivery a grocery gift card
- **Time commitment:** Up to 90 minutes to purchase a gift card and deliver it once every 6 weeks

- **Skills needed:** A car can help but is not required. Most deliveries are within a 2 mile radius of the Stop and Shop
  - **If interested, contact:** [askyourmamas@gmail.com](mailto:askyourmamas@gmail.com) with a subject line of “Supermarket Sweep Help”
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### **Become a Grocery Pair to a Household (In-person Help)**

To be a pair you only need to commit to making reliable deliveries of groceries or grocery cards, and be willing to help MAMAS grow our mutual aid project.

- **Background:** Pairing is a personal and flexible way to help contribute to food security in our community. Pairing up means you and your pair will be in direct contact about their needs and deliver groceries/grocery gift cards, or do other small errands like pick up prescriptions. Read more about the grocery pairing program at this link: [MAMAS Pairing FAQ](#)
  - **Responsibilities:** Purchase and deliver groceries or a grocery gift card to a household within your neighborhood pod/ area. **Every transaction is reimbursable** through our fiscal sponsor's platform, [OpenCollective](#): \$100 a month for 1-2 person households, \$200 a month for 3-5 person households, and \$300 a month for households of 6+ people. The turnaround time for reimbursement (a direct deposit into your bank account) is ~2-4 days.
  - **Time commitment:** Up to 90 minutes to purchase and deliver once a month.
  - **Skills needed:** A car can help but is not required. Most deliveries are within a 2 mile radius of your neighborhood pod/area.
  - **If interested, contact** [askyourmamas@gmail.com](mailto:askyourmamas@gmail.com) with a subject line of “Grocery Pair request”
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### **Garden Tasks and Garden Management (In-person help)**

Help with gardening-related tasks or garden management! This does *not* require you to already know how to garden.

- **Background:** The MAMAS Gardening Collective is creating and maintaining shared gardens where neighbors can produce food for themselves and their communities. Many pieces go into making a garden: space, soil, plants, labor for watering and weeding and harvesting. We're finding people who have different pieces, and putting them together to grow food for our community. More info on our [webpage](#).
- **Responsibilities:** Tasks vary based on season and needs; examples include shoveling dirt, transporting dirt, picking weeds, watering plants, harvesting vegetables, and distributing produce to neighbors or community fridges. For garden management, refer to our [policies & procedures document](#).
- **Time commitment:** Varies by type of role; individual tasks can be as little as an hour, garden management is at least a couple hours a week at the peak of the season (and more if you want).

- **If interested:** fill out our [interest form](#) (preferred) or email [mamasgardeningcollective@gmail.com](mailto:mamasgardeningcollective@gmail.com)
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### **Garden-related Logistics (Virtual help, with optional in-person components)**

Help the Gardening Collective run smoothly.

- **Background:** The MAMAS Gardening Collective is creating and maintaining shared gardens where neighbors can produce food for themselves and their communities. Many pieces go into making a garden: space, soil, plants, labor for watering and weeding and harvesting. We're finding people who have different pieces, and putting them together to grow food for our community. More info on our [webpage](#).
  - **Responsibilities:** Be reliable and responsive, and take initiative. Tasks will be things like sending emails, keeping spreadsheets/documents up to date, monitoring what needs to be done and finding people to do it.
  - **Time commitment:** Several hours for initial onboarding and getting familiar with how things work, then at least an hour per week (can be much more if you want).
  - **If interested:** fill out our [interest form](#) (preferred) or email [mamasgardeningcollective@gmail.com](mailto:mamasgardeningcollective@gmail.com)
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### **Help us manage the MAMAS Hotline Call spreadsheet (Virtual Help)**

Seeking help with returning hotline callbacks by either copying/pasting a voicemail into the hotline call log, or using our google voice number, make a call or text the requestor with canned responses for support.

- **Background:** The hotline is a phone number that people can call or text to request support, offer resources, and to learn about or connect with the MAMAS network.
- **Responsibilities:** Vary based on your comfort and availability, but could include responding to calls and texts from the hotline.
- **Skills Required:** A computer, internet access, a phone to make calls, and a friendly and problem solving attitude. Additional training provided. Spanish, Portuguese, or Haitian Creole language capacity useful but not required.
- **Time commitment:** 1-2 hours a week or month, flexible based on availability
- **If interested, contact:** [mamashotline@gmail.com](mailto:mamashotline@gmail.com) with a subject line of "hotline call log help"

### **Help us update the MAMAS Resource Hub and Other Resource Materials (Virtual Help)**

- **Responsibilities** include reading through a section of our resource hub, reviewing and making updates to make sure information is up-to-date.
- **Skills required:** A computer, internet access, and the ability to search on Google to find information about a resource (e.g., Somerville free taxi voucher program deadline)
- **Time commitment:** 4 hours a month, flexible based on availability

- **If interested, contact:** [mamashotline@gmail.com](mailto:mamashotline@gmail.com) with a subject line of “updating resource hub help”

### **Hotline Admin: Looking for More Admin Members (Virtual Help)**

Help manage the hotline! The hotline is a phone number that people can call or text to request support, offer resources, and to learn about or connect with the MAMAS network.

- **Responsibilities:** Provide support to hotliners returning hotline callbacks, logging new calls and contacts, archive older call logs, and contact information; manage scheduling, participate in periodic admin committee meetings
  - **Skills Required:** A computer, internet access, a phone to make calls, and a friendly and problem solving attitude. Additional training provided. Spanish, Portuguese, or Haitian Creole language capacity useful but not required.
  - **Time commitment:** 1-2 hours a week, but flexible based on availability
  - **If interested, contact:** [mamashotline@gmail.com](mailto:mamashotline@gmail.com) with a subject line of “Hotline admin help”
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### **Making More MAMAS: Looking for Working Group Members (In-person Help or Virtual Help)**

Seeking new members to the Welcoming/Onboarding working group.

- **No experience needed**, just an enthusiasm for figuring out ways to improve the process of integrating people into roles and projects in MAMAS!
  - **Time commitment** is 1-5 hours per week, but definitely very flexible based on interest and availability.
  - **If interested, contact:** [askyourmamas@gmail.com](mailto:askyourmamas@gmail.com) with a subject line of “Making More MAMAS Help”
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### **Help rewrite content for the MAMAS Website (Virtual help)**

Seeking 1-3 people to help with a one-time project of creating and/or rewriting content for the MAMAS website: <https://mutualaidmamas.com/>

- **Responsibilities** include creating new content, finding existing content and adding it to the webpage, and/or helping with the layout of the webpage so that it’s easier to find more information about MAMAS. You have the option of helping to coordinate website design activities, or commit to smaller tasks such as receiving content that needs to be rewritten.
- **Time commitment** 4-6 hours total for the project
- **If interested, contact:** [askyourmamas@gmail.com](mailto:askyourmamas@gmail.com) with a subject line of “Website writing Help”

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## Seeking help with the MAMAS newsletter (Virtual help)

Seeking 1-3 people to help restart the MAMAS newsletter in a format that is sustainable to manage (monthly newsletters with 3-4 sections of content). See older newsletters at the following link:

<https://us19.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=39eb03ae7999f8f207d364e92&id=da2a3dfc61>

- **Responsibilities** include working with other MAMAS members to create and publicize content, proofread content, and/or project manage the newsletter. You have the option of helping to coordinate activities, and/or writing content only.
- **Time commitment** 1-4 hours per month
- **If interested, contact:** [askyourmamas@gmail.com](mailto:askyourmamas@gmail.com) with a subject line of "MAMAS newsletter Help"

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## Neighborhood Pods / Neighborhood Point People (NPPs) (In-person and/or Virtual)

We are seeking:

- **NPP working group members / coordinators!**
  - **Responsibilities** could include: creating and updating best practices resources for NPPs to use, coordinating/facilitating group check-ins with NPPs, thinking about how to make our pods accessible to all, helping reach out to possible future NPPs, and more!
  - **Skills needed:** a desire to do any of the responsibilities listed above. Being a NPP yourself could be helpful for certain of these, but there could be roles as well for non-NPPs!
  - **Time commitment:** 1-3 hours per week (or more if you want)
  - **If interested, contact:** [mamasnpp@gmail.com](mailto:mamasnpp@gmail.com)
- **NPPs / co-NPPs** (for unmapped pods, pods whose NPPs are no longer able to fill the role, and pods with NPPs that don't yet have a co-leader)
  - **Responsibilities:** reaching out to our neighbors, moderating a neighborhood group chat or phone tree, and staying in touch with the larger MAMAS network and other NPPs to share resources and information.
  - **If interested,** you can read this [NPP Guide](#) for more information about being a NPP and how to get started.
  - You can also check on our [Pod Map](#) to see if your area already has a NPP. If so, reach out to them to get involved! If not, or if you don't hear back from the NPP listed on the map, **reach out to us at** [mamasnpp@gmail.com](mailto:mamasnpp@gmail.com)

- **Skills needed:** desire to build community with your neighbors and liaise between MAMAS and your neighbors
  - **Time commitment:** less than 30 mins - 1 hour per week, unless you're planning an event
  - **If interested, contact:** [mamasnpp@gmail.com](mailto:mamasnpp@gmail.com)
  - **“Language Pod” coordinators and/or interpreters**
    - We have language pods that communicate in languages other than English, and cover larger geographic areas than our neighborhood pods, so that those who prefer to be in language-based pods can be, or can be in both!
    - **Responsibilities could include:** outreach to current NPPs to get people involved in the language pods, moderating a language-pod whatsapp group, interpreting announcements that should go to Neighborhood Pods to send to language pods, etc.
    - **Skills needed:** you do NOT need to speak a language other than English to work on this project. English-only speakers can help with outreach to current NPPs and other support. But if you do speak a language other than English, that would be great! Interpretation skills, or just capacity to moderate/engage in a non-English group chat, are needed.
    - **Time commitment:** 1-2 hours per week or month
    - **If interested, contact:** [askyourmamas@gmail.com](mailto:askyourmamas@gmail.com)
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