



# Maggie's Place AmeriCorps FAQ's

Maggie's Place AmeriCorps members are summer or year-long service members who commit to sharing life with moms and babies, contributing to the overall functioning of our homes, and/or providing programming support at our Family Success Center. Due to the immersiveness and trauma sensitive nature of the role, Maggie's Place AmeriCorps positions are available to women only.

### How is Maggie's Place different from other service programs?

The Maggie's Place AmeriCorps program is an immersive service experience. In our Maggie's Place homes, AmeriCorps and moms live in community, sharing together and living life alongside one another. AmeriCorps members live in solidarity with the women they serve, and each member of the community, regardless of their role, is changed profoundly by the experience.

#### Are there costs associated with applying/serving?

AmeriCorps are responsible for traveling to and from their placements.

#### What will Maggie's Place provide for me?

Housing, food, and transportation are provided at no cost to AmeriCorps members. No expenses are taken out of your monthly stipend of \$1,333.34. In addition, AmeriCorps members receive ongoing supervision, support, and professional development allowing them to grow personally and develop transferable job skills for a variety of markets.

A full list of commitment benefits is available upon request.

#### What about meals?

Each home has a grocery budget and is stocked with community groceries. If you prefer to buy your own personal food, you can do so with personal money. Additionally, AmeriCorps members qualify to receive EBT to aid with food costs. Meals are on your own for both moms and AmeriCorps, except for Monday night community night.

### Can I apply if I'm not a US citizen?

AmeriCorps members must be US citizens or legally documented residents.





## Are there medical considerations for service?

In order to meet the demands of an immersive service experience, AmeriCorps members are expected to be able to operate well under stress, and should take into consideration mental and physical health needs or challenges when applying for service at Maggie's Place; existing conditions should be well managed in order to allow the member to thrive during their service experience.

Members are expected to remain up to date on all recommended vaccinations.

## **COVID Precautions**

In order to reduce the spread of COVID and protect our community, AmeriCorps members are strongly encouraged to be up to date on COVID vaccination prior to arriving in the homes. Maggie's Place follows CDC guidelines in response to COVID procedures and may alter mandates and policies as new research emerges.

## How do I handle my college loans?

Either forbearance or deferment is available for most federally guaranteed student loans. Contact your lender for more information. Maggie's Place is happy to provide any forms or letters required to prove your status as a full-time service member. AmeriCorps loans may have the option to be placed in forbearance for the duration of service.

### Can my family and friends visit me? Call me?

Yes! AmeriCorps often invite family and friends to visit and share in their experiences of life at Maggie's Place. While AmeriCorps members are expected to immerse themselves into the community at Maggie's Place, we also recognize that keeping in touch with family and friends is important and necessary to stay healthy.

### Is Maggie's Place a religious organization?

Maggie's Place is not a religious organization. Maggie's Place is 501(c)3 organization committed to serving mothers – upholding dignity, providing support for those experiencing barriers to thriving, and building an inclusive, trauma-informed community. Being founded in the spirit of Catholic social teaching, our core values of love, hospitality, community, and excellence derive from these principles. As we have grown over the years, we have remained true to our core values and mission, while proactively seeking to be a community that welcomes and integrates moms, staff and AmeriCorps members from all faith traditions and walks of life around our common purpose.





## Is there a dress code at Maggie's Place?

We ask our AmeriCorps members to follow a dress code during times that the home is open to guests, volunteers, and donors (9AM-9 PM). When representing Maggie's Place at events or attending meetings at the Family Success Center, AmeriCorps members are expected to dress business casual. New AmeriCorps will receive a packing list with dress code guidelines upon acceptance.

### Do I need to have a driver's license?

Every AmeriCorps member should have a license and must be 21 years old if driving a Maggie's Place vehicle. Summer members may be younger than 21, but can only drive Maggie's Place vehicles if they are 21 and older. A large portion of the AmeriCorps role involves safely driving Maggie's Place vehicles with passengers, so AmeriCorps members should be confident drivers prior to service.

### Will I have my own bedroom?

AmeriCorps will share a bedroom with up to 4 other AmeriCorps members in the homes.

### What does day to day life look like?

Each day is dependent on the needs of the moms in the home, so each day looks different! Typically, the day is split into duty shifts. When an AmeriCorps member is not on duty, she may spend her time one-on-one with moms, driving moms and babies to appointments or classes, doing her assigned position work, or taking personal time.

### Do AmeriCorps members receive days off?

AmeriCorps members receive off one 24 hour shift and one 9-4 shift each week. Additionally, AmeriCorps members are encouraged to take 3 hours of personal time per day. In order to provide a space for rest and self care, Maggie's Place provides a day off house that is separate from the home where you work at to be used during your time off.

### Do you get holidays off?

No. Maggie's Place homes do not close for the holidays, so AmeriCorps members do not get traditional holidays off. We are often the primary support and community for the moms that live with us. We ask all first-year AmeriCorps to stay for Christmas, and can take time off for either Thanksgiving or Easter as well as other holidays as part of their 24 allotted vacation days.





## Can I have another job while at Maggie's Place?

No. A year or summer of service at Maggie's Place is extremely immersive. AmeriCorps members will not have the time or flexibility needed to hold another job while serving at Maggie's Place in a live-in or live-out position. This also applies to any other commitment, like school or online classes.

### How do the live-in and live-out roles differ from one another?

Depending on the needs of the organization from year to year, Maggie's Place may have live-out AmeriCorps positions available.

Live-in AmeriCorps members live in the homes with Maggie's Place moms, babies, and other AmeriCorps members. Live-out AmeriCorps members may choose to live at the day off house or at their own residence in the Phoenix area. Live-out AmeriCorps members primarily serve at the Family Success Center or at our reunification housing. Live-out AmeriCorps members offer support to Maggie's Place alumnae moms, while live-in AmeriCorps work closely with moms currently residing in our maternity homes.