



Helping people move beyond  
the limitations of poverty,  
inequity and social isolation.

Moving Lives Forward.

## Metropolitan Family Service Volunteer Description

**Program:** Project Linkage

**Position:** Shopping Assistant

**Program Description:** Project Linkage helps older adults and people with disabilities remain independent in their own homes by linking them with volunteers who provide in-home support and transportation services. Project Linkage has served older adults and people with disabilities in the community since 1978.

**Position Description:** Project Linkage Shopping Assistants make it possible for clients to receive adequate nutrition. Shopping Assistants perform one or more of the following services: providing transportation to grocery stores, helping clients as they shop or shopping for clients using a provided list. Shopping Assistants may also accompany a Project Linkage grocery shuttle group and assist clients with their shopping.

**Time Commitment:** The time commitment for shoppers is flexible and variable. Shopping schedules are set between the client and volunteer, though volunteers can typically expect to volunteer once a week for two to four hours. The time commitment for assistants on Project Linkage grocery shuttles is three or four hours in the morning, once per week.

**Responsibilities:** Review lists with clients to make sure they get what they need. Volunteers may help read labels, push cart, carry grocery bags, and/or compare prices. Grocery shopping volunteers do not pay for groceries—all bills must be paid by the client.

**Expectations:** Volunteers should be patient, well-organized and willing to abide by the money handling policies of Metropolitan Family Service. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and submit both a criminal background check form and program application unless accompanied by an adult. If transporting clients, volunteers should have a minimum of five years driving experience, maintain a valid driver's license in their state of residence, maintain proof of required auto liability insurance, own a dependable vehicle, and consent to a driving history background check.

**Supervision & Training:** Project Linkage orientation is provided prior to service. For drivers, an additional 8 hours of training provided by Ride Connection must be completed within six months of becoming a volunteer driver.

**For more information:** Contact Metropolitan Family Service at 503.232.0007, ext. 211