



Maa Shanti

Treasurer

CANDIDATE PACK

Welcome

Dear prospective trustee,

Thank you for your interest in Maa Shanti and for taking the time to learn more about our work.

Maa Shanti is a led by and for charity, set up by three South Asian women who recognised a serious gap in culturally informed support and guidance for women in their community who were experiencing domestic abuse. What began as a grassroots response has grown into a trusted organisation supporting women and children to rebuild safety, confidence and independence, often in the face of multiple and overlapping challenges. Survivors remain at the heart of everything we do.

This is an important time for Maa Shanti. Demand for our services continues to grow, and the needs of the women and children we support are becoming more complex. Alongside this, we are focused on strengthening our organisation so we can continue to offer high-quality, trauma-informed support now and into the future.

Our Board plays an active, supportive role in this work. Trustees work closely with the Director, offering guidance, challenge and encouragement in equal measure. We value thoughtful discussion, sound judgement and a shared commitment to keeping survivors' voices central to decision-making. We aim to be a values-led Board that balances strong governance with compassion and care.

We are looking for trustees who believe in our mission and want to contribute to a charity making a real difference. You may bring professional skills, lived experience, or strong connections to the communities we serve - all are welcome. Previous trustee experience is not essential; what matters most is your perspective, integrity and willingness to learn.

Trusteeship at Maa Shanti is a voluntary role, but one that offers the opportunity to be part of a warm, committed Board and to contribute meaningfully to the lives of women and children affected by domestic abuse. We provide a full induction and ongoing support to help trustees feel confident in their role.

We particularly welcome applications from people who are underrepresented in governance, including women from Black and minoritised communities and those with lived experience of domestic abuse. If you would like an informal conversation before applying, we would be very happy to arrange this.

Thank you for considering joining Maa Shanti at this important time. We hope you will see a place for yourself in our work.

Warmest wishes,

Humaa Jamil
Chair

Nikita Mistry
Chair Designate

About Us

Maa Shanti is a led-by-and-for organisation supporting single South Asian mothers affected by domestic abuse. Founded in 1998 in Islington, we are entirely run by South Asian women, many with lived experience of abuse, enabling us to provide culturally informed, trusted, and accessible support.

With over 25 years' experience, we address barriers such as stigma, language, immigration insecurity, and community pressure. Our trauma-informed, person-centred approach offers both crisis and long-term support to help women rebuild safe, independent lives.

Our core services include one-to-one advocacy (housing, benefits, immigration, mental health), safety planning, emotional and wellbeing support, weekly peer drop-ins, creative and fitness activities, workshops on domestic abuse, parenting, and employment, and referrals to trusted partners.

We operate from hubs in Islington and Tower Hamlets, reaching women across North and East London (Islington, Camden, Hackney, Haringey, Tower Hamlets, Newham, and Redbridge). Over the next five years, we aim to develop further hubs across London to extend our reach in response to the increasing need for our services.

With a small, specialist team of five staff and an annual income of £226,599 (2024–25), we support over 200 women each year to escape abusive situations, secure safe housing, and rebuild independent lives.

You can find out more about our work [here](#).



Becoming a Treasurer

What is a Trustee?

Trustees ensure their charity has a clear strategy, and that its work and goals are in line with its vision. A trustee's role in a charity is to be the 'guardians of purpose', making sure that all decisions put the needs of the beneficiaries first. They safeguard the charity's assets – both physical assets, including property, and intangible ones, such as its reputation. They make sure these are used well and that the charity is run sustainably.

What is Treasurer?

As well as fulfilling the duties of a Trustee, the Treasurer maintains an overview of the organisations financial affairs. The Treasurer ensures that effective and appropriate financial measures, controls and procedures are put in place and reports to the Board at regular intervals about the financial health of the organisation. The Treasurer will oversee and lead on our financial plans.

Why join Maa Shanti's board?

Joining Maa Shanti's Board is an opportunity to be part of a values-led, survivor-centred organisation making a real difference in the lives of women and children affected by domestic abuse. As a trustee, you will help shape the future of a trusted, community-rooted charity at a time of growth and increasing need. You'll work alongside a thoughtful, supportive Board and leadership team, contributing your perspective, skills and lived experience to ensure survivors' voices remain at the heart of everything we do.

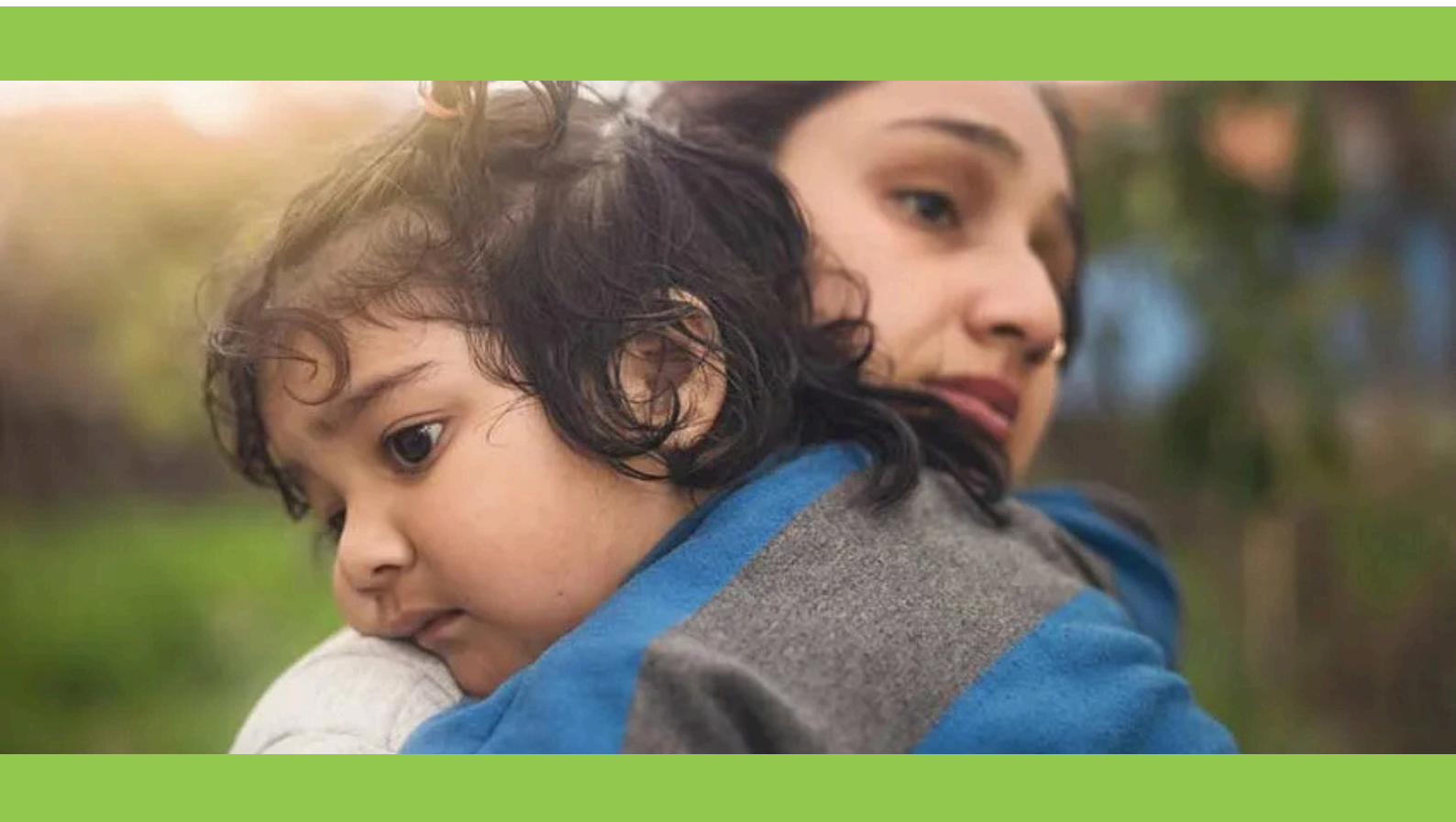


About the Role

We're looking for a Treasurer who wants to join our friendly and committed Board of Trustees to support and develop the work of Maa Shanti. As Treasurer, you will also be responsible for overseeing all financial matters on behalf of Maa Shanti. Alongside your fellow Trustees, you will also be responsible for the overall governance, administration and strategic direction of the charity, including developing its aims, objectives and goals in accordance with relevant organisation and legal guidelines.

Key Responsibilities:

- To oversee, approve and present all yearly budgets, quarterly and annual accounts and other relevant financial statements.
- Review budgets, accounts, and financial statements in advance of Board meetings.
- Present regular reports on the organisation's financial position.
- Advise fellow Trustees on a regular basis of the financial status of the charity, and where necessary, recommend action.
- Ensure the charity complies with legislative and regulatory requirements with regards to financial matters.
- Maintain sound financial management of the charity's resources, ensuring expenditure is in line with the agreed budget and investment activities meet accepted standards and policies.



Time Commitment

- Quarterly Board meetings (which are currently held online).
- 2 away days a year.
- In addition to Board meetings, there will be some ad hoc work support required in between meetings.
- Overall estimated time commitment is 1 day a month.
- Remote/hybrid working offered if needed.

What are we looking for?

You do not need previous governance experience to join the board. We will provide an induction and ongoing support.

Skills and experience:

- Practising finance professional (i.e. Accountant, Finance Manager, Finance Director).
- Ideally you will have charity finance experience.
- Ability to communicate and explain financial information to members of the Board.
- Willingness and ability to understand and accept their responsibilities and liabilities as trustees and to act in the best interests of the organisation.
- Ability to think creatively and strategically, exercise good, independent judgement and work effectively as a board member.
- Effective communication skills and willingness to participate actively in discussion.
- Enthusiasm for the work of Maa Shanti.

We warmly welcome applications from individuals who bring a wide range of experiences and perspectives to our Board. As a woman only and led-by-and-for organisation, all board members must be women, and at least 90% of the board must come from South Asian backgrounds.



How To Apply

The TrusteeWorks Team at Reach Volunteering are supporting Maa Shanti with their Treasurer recruitment.

Applications should be made via TrusteeWorks in the first instance. Maa Shanti are happy to have an informal conversation to discuss the role further.

To apply please submit your CV along with a covering letter stating why you wish to join the organisation and how your skills and experience would add value to the board.

We will be engaging with candidates as they apply and may close the role before the official deadline of March 9th.

Please send applications and enquiries to:

trusteeworks@reachvolunteering.org.uk

