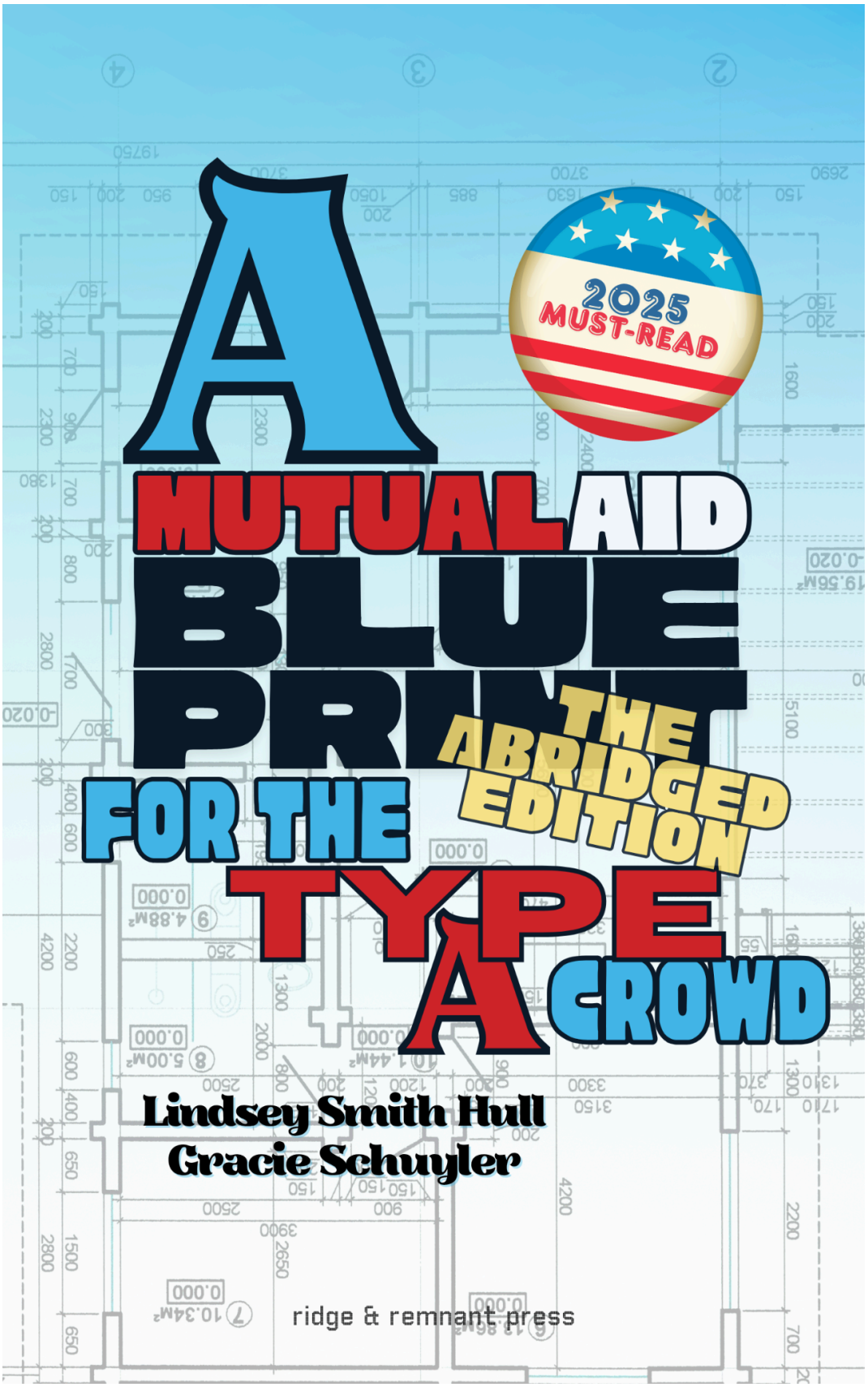

A
2025
MUST-READ
MUTUAL AID
BLUE
PRINT
THE ABRIDGED EDITION
FOR THE
TYPE A CROWD
Lindsey Smith Hull
Gracie Schuyler
ridge & remnant press

about this project

No2Ice was founded in 2025 by a small group of women on the principle that practical, legal tools for reducing harm from Immigration and Customs Enforcement should be available to every person, activist, and community leader to better support all immigrant communities.

This book is an extension of that project. We've seen mutual aid networks organize rapid response networks. We've seen resource-sharing networks pivot to support a need in another community. When disruption occurs, mutual aid works. It really works. It is our hope that that this book will inspire you.

A Mutual Aid Blueprint
for the Type A Crowd

A MUTUAL AID BLUE PRINT FOR THE TYPE A CROWD





RIDGE & REMNANT

Feel free to pass this booklet along to as many friends as you see fit. To support our work, should you have the means and the desire, visit us at NO2ICE.com. To purchase the unabridged version, visit amazon.com or contact one of the authors directly.

Copyright ©2025 by Ridge & Remnant Press
All Rights Reserved.

Published in the United States by
Ridge & Remnant Press

To access free tools and resources for legally mitigating the harm that ICE activity causes to individuals, families, and communities, visit no2ice.com. The purchase of this book supports our continued work.

This book is for educational purposes only. for legal advice, please consult an attorney.

Abridged edition.

Printed in the United States of America.

www.ridgeandremnantpress.com

www.no2ice.com

www.thedisappeared.org

contents

prologue	**4**
quick start checklist	**6**
quick, quick, slow	**7**
go find a partner	**9**
pick a direction	**11**
get specific	**12**
Identify a location	**14**
core leadership team	**16**
pod-mapping	**17**
a note on collective leadership	**19**
daily tasks & opportunities	**20**
safety & expectations	**21**
supplies	**22**
final thoughts	**24**
about No2Ice	**25**
resources	**27**
notes	**28**

prologue

Mutual aid is simply this: something that is done for everyone's sake. The thing is, we've come to a point in this nation where we need to be able to trust one another. We need to be able to rely on one another. If you're doing everything for yourself, then you've only ever relied upon yourself. Truly.

Mutual aid hubs are safe, people-run spaces that provide their members with shared resources, direct support, information, and connection when their community is facing disruption. Leadership is shared.

quick start checklist

Planning

- Find a partner.
- Determine your zone. Will your hub serve your block, your street, or your apartment building? Keep your zone small enough that it will be manageable.
- Determine the main things your group will do.
- Choose a location.
- Create a name and identify a core leadership team.

Preparation

- Stock the Essentials.
- Make a plan for resupply.
- Split daily tasks.
- Set up a communication network.
- Prepare educational materials.

Ready, Set, Go!

- Safety & Care
- Invite people in
- Connect & Expand

quick, quick, slow

The next chapter will begin to guide you through the process of setting up your own mutual aid group. When we started writing this little guide, it seemed as if we all had time to take things on the slower side.

Now, with so many Americans facing shortages as we enter the cold season, people are scrambling to find ways to help.

When a mutual aid network begins to operate in response to disruption, people tend to jump right in. And, as long as egos are left at the door and everyone remembers that these work best as collectives with shared leadership, things can work out just fine.

***

Washington Square Park Mutual Aid began in July 2021 in response to disruption in the Greenwich Village neighborhood.

When they instituted a curfew in the area, the local government was seen as infringing upon the revelers' freedom to gather when and where they chose.

In reaction to this, a small group of friends gathered on a Friday night. Mass arrests had continued that season, and they wanted to do something to help, the organizers said. (In 2023, two of the group's anonymous organizers gave an interview to Valerie Peter Chong with CUNY Urban Food Policy.)

Friends brought food and clothing to the small meet-ups. They started giving them away. They didn't call it mutual aid until later.

More friends showed up with more resources to swap. No one felt compelled to bring something, and nobody called it charity. It just was what it was.

Every Friday, they continued to meet. Some people donated hot meals. Some donated food so

they could order pizza. Some might have taken more than they put in, but nobody was counting.

The Washington Square Park mutual aid hub was running well because people were committed to it. They knew that they would meet up every Friday. They would share resources; whatever extra they had would be redistributed accordingly. It was the opposite of Type A; it was chill.

Their location was as easy as a park. Their supplies were gathered or donated or cobbled together. The network was loose, but consistent, and it grew.

go find a partner

You can't do this alone. I mean, you could. But you shouldn't. You'll overwork yourself and then burn out and then then you'll start snapping at the people in your leadership circle (remember shared leadership?) and then... crash. burn. repeat.

We know how the story ends.

Let's rewind. You need a partner. You're going to need support just like everyone else in your hub, and you're going to need it from the very beginning... before you get your hub up and functioning.

Some don'ts...

Don't just automatically assume your spouse is the best pick. Chances are, they aren't. Sure, they support you in everything else in life. But *they support you in everything else in life*. You're too close. You need someone who can take a breather every now and again.

Don't pick someone just because they are a Grade A Activist. Your personalities might not align even if your politics do.

Don't pick someone just because they live in the right area, or just because they answered the phone on the first ring, or just because you were super excited when you ran into them in the grocery store.

You're going to be working with this person on a project in which you're *at least* going to be sharing resources with one another. You've got to give this some thought.

The right partner will:

- Communicate effectively and in your preferred style (text, email, phone, signal ... snapchat anyone?)
- Is someone with whom you are willing to negotiate and compromise, and who is willing

to negotiate and compromise with you

- Have skills that compliment your own
- Is someone who has a personality that you can get along with; ya'll are going to need to have fun through this process.

Finally, the right partner will share your overall vision. Pull out your glue sticks and glitter, because it's time to make a vision board.

pick a direction

Your own network could serve a lot of different purposes.

No matter what, we're talking about solidarity and reciprocity, not charity. Teamwork.

You're going to want your group to provide support, belonging, resources, communication, trust, and knowledge to its members. After that, you can look outside your immediate zone to serve others. We're going to begin to explore some possibilities of what your network could accomplish.

You and your partner will need to make some real decisions regarding the initial direction for your mutual aid network based on your vision-casting and what you think your community needs. Put these ideas on paper. Type them and print them out and laminate them, even. (Don't laminate them. Things are always subject to change.) Do this before anyone else gets involved.

Answer the following questions:

- What zone are you going to serve?
- What are that community's most urgent needs?
- What are your secondary needs?
- Which of these are you and your partner capable of addressing?
- Which do you need to find skilled individuals to help with?
- Who do you know who has the skills needed to help with those needs?
- What are your boundaries for the group?

get specific

As we've discussed, your mutual aid hub may serve any purpose you need or a multitude of purposes. The purpose may shift over time. It could ebb and flow, as did that of The Reformers or the Pansy Collective, discussed below. It's like a room of requirement, except it's real life and for real people who might be in real need.

You and your partner will need to set aside a good chunk of time to research different mutual aid networks and how they are interacting with their communities or consider the list below. Then, get to vision-casting!

Some examples:

- **Food Not Bombs** is a Richmond, Virginia-based all-volunteer movement that provides vegan and vegetarian **meals** to donors and others in need. Founded in 1993, it began distributing food as a protest against war and poverty. The Richmond chapter also cares for a Little Free Library project and participates in protests.

- Over the summer of 2025, the **Little Village Community Council** (Chicago, IL) began handing out whistles to use as a method of **community defense** against ICE raids. "If we have to patrol our neighborhood for the next three years, we're willing to do that just to keep our community safe," council president Baltazar Enriquez told Reuters.

- **The Pansy Collective** in Asheville, North Carolina is one of those groups that seems to pivot really well. I'm including them here as an example of a group that provides **disaster relief**. Following Hurricane Helene in 2024, this mutual aid group that focuses on **providing monetary support to trans-members' health, medical, and living needs** stepped in and started organizing all sorts of types of aid. They put out requests for medical professionals to provide mutual aid medical care, the put out the call for trucks and able-bodied people to help clear roads or other blocked areas, they strategized with other groups and so much more. Find them on Instagram to see all their amazing deeds.

- **The Pansy Collective** gets props for offering really, really free giveaway days too, as a

sort-of **no-buy community.** This has also been successfully interpreted as clothing swaps, little free libraries, and little free art galleries.

- **Bail Funds** are commonly found in a lot of states. They do tend to be non-profit organizations that raise a lot of money to meet their goals, and they also help a lot of people who otherwise would not have the money to be released from jail before their trials. If your group is going to be active in demonstrations, this is a route you may want to explore.

- **Rideshares** can be formal or informal between people within the hub. This is an easy way to share mutual resources, particularly when people are worried about ICE or law enforcement pulling them over while driving. See a **Know Your Rights** while driving flyer for more information.

- **DoGood Virginia** has offered many **skill sharing** opportunities this year. They've had discussions from leading authors on the rise of authoritarianism and the polarization of our nation. Members have learned some defense skills and survival skills and ways to deescalate situations. All of the skills are taught by network members, or members arrange the classes with outside contacts. It's really been something, to quote the lead organizer.
- Way back a while ago, a bunch of moms worked for **Red Rooster Coffee**, a roaster and coffee shop. Lo and behold, they all started having babies about the same time and they all wanted to keep their jobs. They set up an informal **babysitting co-op**. (Eventually, that co-op turned into an actual daycare). Care-sharing like this can come in handy when you're in a group that has a lot of the same needs. It isn't just confined to childcare; folks could set the same thing up for any sort of caregiving circle, from adult care centers to necessary care for the aging.

There are tons of examples out there – too many to list. Find something that gets your heart racing and start dreaming.

identify a location

Folks, you're going to need a place to gather. Or to store stuff, perhaps. (Your "stuff" could just as easily be mobile or virtual.) And, also, to cry on each other's shoulders.

By this point, you have already determined your zone, so start looking around to see what is convenient and what is safe for you. If you're focused on your apartment building, is there a community room, assuming that the whole building is a safe space? If you're focused on a neighborhood, would someone's porch work? Is there perhaps an art studio or a nearby library that could host you?

Try to find a place that is:

- Accessible — Is it near public transit or a bike path or a nice sidewalk? Is it ADA-friendly?
- Neutral & Safe — Choose locations that are not affiliated with law enforcement, ICE, or DHS.

Just a Few Ideas:

- Front Porches
- Community Farms
- Pocket Parks
- Libraries
- Schools
- Places of Worship
- Book Stores
- Cat Cafes
- Community Centers
- Empty Hallways
- Social Clubs
- Breweries
- Art Studios
- Meeting Houses
- Fitness Centers
- Boutiques
- Living Rooms
- Backyard Gardens
- Board Rooms
- Summer Camps
- Cafeterias
- Empty Malls
- Music Venues
- Empty office space
- Former warehouses
- Storage units
- Wineries

Use What You Have

Of course, some of these places are better than others. None will be perfect. You'll have to use what you have.

Some locations might charge a fee. Some might not. Some might not have enough seating, or enough tables, or enough fill in the blank.

Some might not have a place for you to store your stock, and then you might have to tote it back and forth in a little red wagon. (If that's the case, consider keeping it in a member's very large car if that is an option.)

Find what's available. Find what fits your needs. And then make it imperfectly yours. The goal is to get moving, not to seek perfection.

core leadership team

Your mutual aid hub's core team will consist of people who will take care of the following six duties:

- **Coordinator** – keeps daily operations flowing.
- **Intake/Greeter** – welcomes neighbors, logs needs.
- **Supplies Lead** – tracks food, water, hygiene, first aid.
- **Legal/Info Lead** – distributes Know Your Rights flyers, connects to immigration attorneys & legal aid.
- **Safety Lead** – ensures de-escalation, manages entry/exit.
- **Communications Lead** – maintains group text/Signal/WhatsApp for rapid alerts about ICE activity.

None of your team members will do their jobs exactly like you would. Hear me now — they will make mistakes and your hub will keep rolling. Give them some grace and respond with kindness. You are not a dictator, remember. No kings.

During your first meeting, get to know each other. Settle in. Start to approach collective leadership in your space. Then, begin discussing how you will structure your group for a larger community.

You'll want to review your vision and the main points of focus that you and your partner agreed upon. There may be some discussion to add and shift things a little bit.

The next exercise will help you fill these ranks.

pod-mapping

The Bay Area Transformative Justice Collective developed the idea of pod-mapping to support their work in 2014. This exercise is a tool to help you determine which individuals you would turn to in case of a disruptive event.

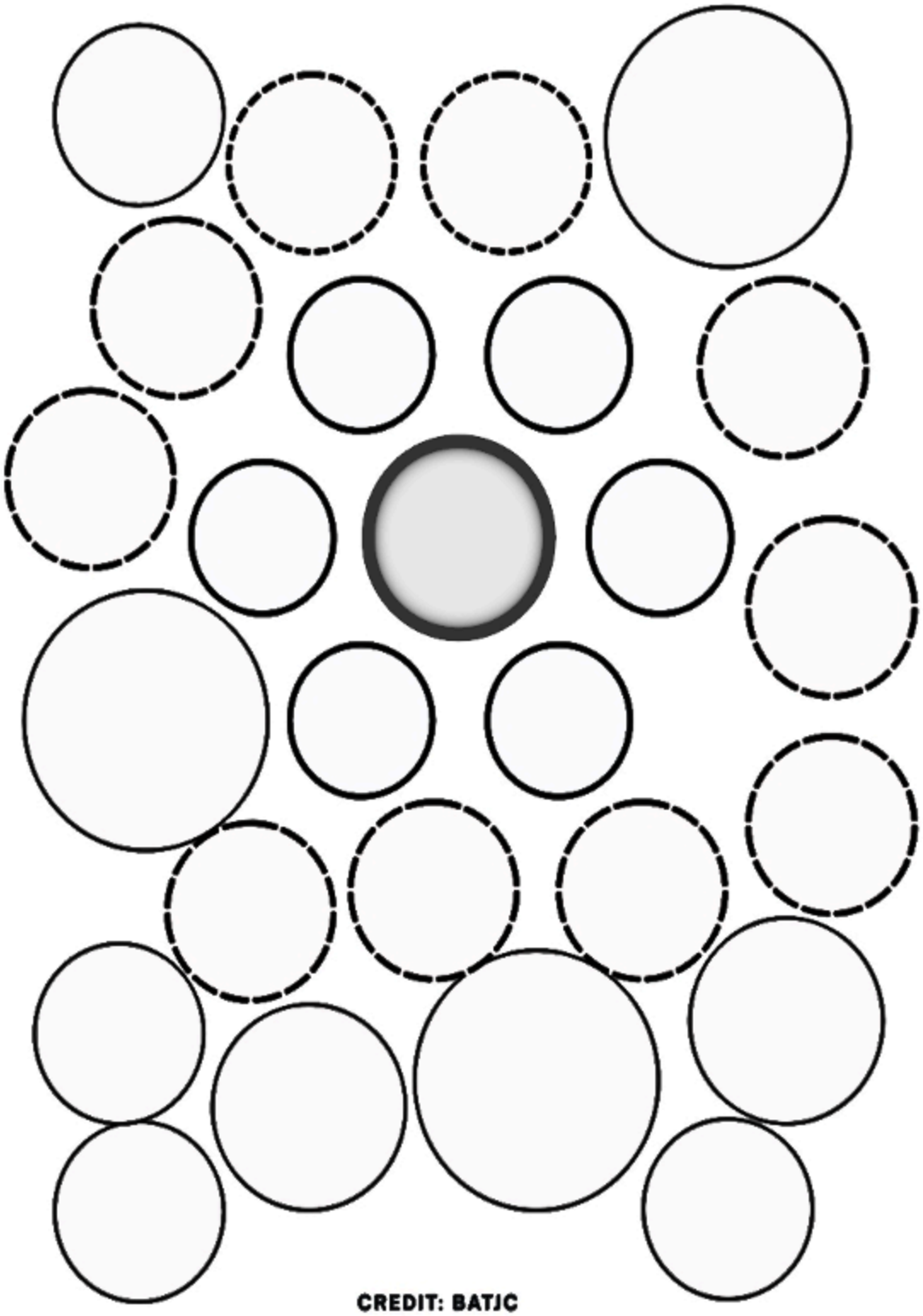
Pod-casting puts relationship-building at the center of activism. Because mutual aid hubs are relied upon in emergencies, the people you place in your pod are probably going to be the people that you would want closest to you in your time of need, right? So think carefully and don't include Aunt Mindy just because your mama says so.

You and your partner should each complete one of these worksheets and then combine your results. Remove anyone who sends up red flags for either of you.

Once you and your partner have completed this work and agreed upon it, it will be time to invite people to your team.

Instructions:

- Write your name in the middle circle.
- The bold-outline circles are people in your actual pod. You're looking for the names of people you trust, not necessarily the political organizers whom you want to align yourself with. It is easier to build off relationship and trust than it is to build relationships and trust off of a common political cause or other common interest, according to BATJC.
- The circles with dotted lines are people who are "movable." They might need a little more work.
- The light gray circles are for networks or large groups you belong to or organizations that might be good resources for you.
- Use actual names, not groups of people like, "My teammates" or "My church group."



CREDIT: BATJC

a note on collective leadership

In a mutual aid hub, leadership is shared under a collective, or non-hierarchal, model.

Members (or the founding members, to start) come together to create a shared vision for the group. In order to create change or forward movement, they process information and brainstorm new ideas together, collaborate during goal-setting sessions and share the responsibility for making group decisions.

The group will collectively determine the direction of the work. Everyone is viewed equally and tasks are shared. With leadership spread around the group, rather than centered with one or two people at the top, it is easier to pivot should part of your team fall away.

daily tasks and opportunities

If your mutual aid hub is located in a physical location, there will be some basic tasks that will need to be taken care of each day to keep your hub moving smoothly.

These will vary according to the type of aid your group is focused on. For a hub that is focused on Community Defense or Resource Distribution, consider the following:

- **Check-In Desk:** Neighbors can report ICE sightings, raids, or intimidation.
- **Supply Table:** distribute basics freely, no questions asked.
- **Information Wall:** Know Your Rights posters, hotline numbers, maps of safe spaces.
- **Quiet/Prayer Room:** emotional and spiritual care.
- **Neighborhood Phone Tree/Signal Chat:** share urgent alerts quickly (e.g., 'ICE seen at 5th & Main')

safety & expectations

Work with your Core Leadership team and your mutual aid pod to develop a list of expectations for the mutual aid hub, keeping safety and care for others centered in the conversation.

Some things to consider are as follows:

- No filming/photography inside without consent.
- Offer escorts for people walking home after an ICE sweep.
- Provide childcare support where possible.
- Be mindful of keeping members' personally identifying information confidential.
- Always de-escalate — no direct confrontation with ICE agents.
- Consider door greeters in places where ICE and law enforcement are active. If the hub is large, consider ways that members can indicate that they are members of the group prior to being granted entry. As goofy as they may seem, secret handshakes and code-words are this season's hottest accessories.

This is for educational purposes only. Contact an attorney for legal advice.

supplies

Depending on the type of mutual aid you plan to offer, your list will be different. If your hub will offer services and basic needs, some items on your list might include:

Food

- Shelf-stable meals
- Dry goods (rice, pasta)
- Protein (tuna, peanut butter)
- Water
- Water purifiers

Infant Supplies

- Larger-size Diapers
- Formula
- Baby Food

Household Items

- Linens
- Blankets
- Towels
- Paper products

Cold Weather/ Hot Weather

socks
gloves
blankets
hot hands
hats
sunscreen
umbrellas

Hygiene and Personal Care

- Oral Hygiene
- Feminine Products
- Soap, Shampoo, Lotion
- Deodorant
- Hygiene Kits

First Aid

- First Aid Kits
- Non-latex Gloves
- Narcan

Miscellaneous Goods

- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Trash Bags
- Grocery Bags
- Name Tags
- Educational Handouts regarding NO2ICE, legal resources, local issues, etc.
- Pet Food and Supplies

For Hub Operations

- Chargers & Extension Cords
- Bulletin Board or Dry Erase Board
- Community ICE Watch signs
- Local Immigration Hotlines
- Translation Resources
- Whistles

connect & share

Once you have your feet under you, it is time to share your knowledge.

Here’s how:

- Partner with nearby networks for supply swaps.
- Share verified reports with advocacy organizations tracking ICE activity. Go to TheDisappeared.org for a list of links.
- Train volunteers in Know Your Rights, trauma-informed support, and safe documentation.
- Reassess your own hub's needs. It might be time to shift and adjust a little. Meet with your leadership team.

Help organizers launch their own hubs; grow this movement in your larger community. This is never just about doing for our own communities; what matters is how we can share our resources with others.

final thoughts

You've got this. The process and needs will ebb and flow. The members may come in and out over time. At the end of the day, you will have made your community stronger.

for the persecuted,

we stand with you.

about No2ICE

No2ICE was organized in early 2025 following the enforced disappearances of 288 men, who the United States government had sent to be indefinitely imprisoned in El Salvador's Centro de Confinamiento del Terrorismo (CECOT).

The team worked tirelessly to uncover and document the stories of many of the people who were being held in CECOT, as well as the plight of the immigrants that the United States continued to target on home soil in the name of immigration enforcement.

That project is called Justice for the Disappeared and remains a work in progress as the Department of Homeland Security continues to use enforced disappearance as a tool of fear and manipulation. It is the team's hope that the stories and materials they have collected and maintained will remain a living history archive for our nation's descendants. Let these atrocities that we experience today never occur again.

Shortly after ICE Raids became a mainstay in America's cities and hometowns, No2Ice was born. The mission is to provide educational materials that present legal pathways to responding to ICE. In supporting all our fellow Americans, we reduce the harm that ICE overreach is inflicting upon each of our communities.

The group does not seek to encourage anyone to resist, obstruct, or act in violence at any time.

resources

Find Free Printables in English and Spanish at No2Ice.com:

- Red Cards
- Emergency Contact Cards
- Emergency Preparation Plans
- Storefront Signs
- Know Your Rights flyers
- Door Signs for your home
- Car Signs for when you are out
- Warrant Comparison Charts
- Print-at-Home stickers

and the list grows longer every day...

notes

Beck, J. (2025, October 17). *The Great Friendship Flattening*. The Atlantic.https://www.theatlantic.com/family/2025/10/social-media-relationships-parasocial/684551/

Carter, D. (2025, October 29). *Letter to Senators Kaine and Warner and Congressman Cline*. Facebook. https://www.facebook.com/groups/1092458935936344

Chong, V. P. (2023, August 23). *Washington Square Park Mutual Aid Q&A*. CUFPI.https://cunyurbanfoodpolicy.org/news/2023/0822/washington-square-park-mutual-aid-qa/

Gerena, C. (2007, March). *Opening the Vault: Black-owned banks have a long history of providing financial services to underserved communities, but how important are they in today's market?* Richmond Fed. https://www.richmondfed.org/publications/research/econ_focus/2007/spring/~/media/29827A54ADA04E49B370EB6E65D2A475.ashx

Home: Richmond food not bombs rva. RVA Food Not Bombs. (n.d.). https://donatefoodnotbombs.wixsite.com/richmond

HUSL Library: A brief history of civil rights in the United States: The Black Panther Party.

The Black Panther Party - A Brief History of Civil Rights in the United States - HUSL Library at Howard University School of Law. (n.d.).https://library.law.howard.edu/civilrightshistory/bpp

I., D. (2024, November 18). *Community Outreach Event*.

Liberatory mutual aid. Autonomies. (n.d.). https://autonomies.org/2025/09/liberatory mutual-aid/

Mingus, M. (n.d.). *Pods and pod mapping worksheet written by Mia Mingus for the BATJC, June 2016*. Bay Area Transformative Justice Collective. https://batjc.org/files/Pods-Pod-Mapping-Worksheet.pdf

Morales, I. (n.d.). *Food for the soul: The restaurants of ground zero*. Food for the Soul: The Restaurants of Ground Zero | National September 11 Memorial & Museum. https://911memorial.org/connect/blog/food-soul-restaurants-ground-zero

Pellizzari, T. (2022a, April 11). *The radical history of the Free Breakfast Program*. Solid Ground. https://www.solid-ground.org/the-radicalhistory-of-the-free-breakfast-program/

Pleasants, S. (2025, June 30). *No breakfast for the children: A concise history of the FBI's war*

On the Black Panther Party. Hampton Institute. https://www.hamptonthink.org/read/no-breakast-for-the-children-a-concise-history-ofThe-fbis-war-on-the-black-panther-party#_edn2

The Pansy Collective. Instagram. (n.d.). https://www.instagram.com/pansy.collective/

Reichl, R. (2020). *Save me the plums: My gourmet memoir*. Random House

Rivoli, D. (2021, June 5). *Washington Square Park now has a 10 p.m. weekend curfew*. Spectrum News NY1. https://ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/public-safety/2021/06/05/washington-square-park-curfew-weekends-friday-night-washington-square-park-nyc

Robertson-McGee, A. (n.d.). *(1966) The Black Panther Party ten-point program | blackpast.org*. BlackPast. https://blackpast.org/african-american-history/black-panther-party-ten-point-program-1966/

Schlitz, H. (n.d.). *How plastic whistles are becoming an anti-ice resistance tool in Chicago | reuters*.Reuters.

Sparrow, J. (2020). *Mutual Aid: An Introduction*. Peach-Tree, Peach-Tree Press.

Terrell, E. (2025, February 25). *The true reformers: The roots of black financial institutions: Inside adams*. The Library of Congress. https://blogs.loc.gov/inside_adams/2025/02/the-true-reformers/

U.S. Department of the Interior. (2023, February 7). *The St Luke Penny Savings Bank*. National Parks Service. https://www.nps.gov/mawa/the-st-luke-penny-savings-bank.htm

Wright, T. (2021, February 3). *https://www.attucksadams.com/thelookingblog/2021/2/2/true-reformers-truly-remarkable*. Attucks Adams. https://www.attucksadams.com/thelookingblog/2021/2/2/true-reformers-truly-remarkable