You've heard of mentoring programs before, but why is the Tuesday's Children Youth Mentoring Program one of a kind?

1. **Child safety is paramount**
   We train and screen our volunteers from our first contact with them through the length of a match with a child. Mentors are trained on child protection and we require more than the national standard for their screening including an in-person interview, at least four references, three types of background checks and more. Not every volunteer who applies is matched with a child.

2. **There is no program fee**
   The Mentoring program is made possible by foundation, corporate and private donor dollars. Volunteers do not cover any application or screening costs, and families are not charged for services. Each match is encouraged to think creatively about activities that are at minimal cost. Whenever possible, Tuesday’s Children facilities free tickets and event passes for our matches.

3. **Data shows the impact Mentoring can make**
   Studies have proven that mentoring youth reduces their risk of participating in risky behaviors, lessens depressive symptoms, can reduce truancy and makes them more likely to participate in extracurricular activities. Mentoring promotes positive social attitudes, and youth tend to have a higher level of trust with their surviving solo parent.

4. **Volunteers gravitate to Tuesday’s Children to make a difference**
   Our mentors make our program possible, and they are positive agents of change for our grieving children. Every volunteer gives at least eight hours a month to be an adult support system for one very special child.
5. **We set our matches up for success**
We take pride in customizing each friendship based on common interests, personality traits and geographical considerations. Like all things at Tuesday’s Children, we customize for all those involved.

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6. **Mentoring is the cornerstone of nearly two decades of service**
We evolve based on feedback from those in our programs. We are now able to offer Military Families of the Fallen the same evidence-based program that proved successful for the families who lost loved ones on 9/11. Our track record shows that our programs are effective, safe and innovative.

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7. **Our team is professionally trained and is always available**
The relationship is built by our trust with the volunteer mentor, surviving parent and the mentee. We all work together to share feedback, overcome challenges and celebrate triumphs. We are in close contact all the time.

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8. **Our staff is accessible and will travel wherever needed**
We will sit in each family’s living room and meet a mentor in a place that is convenient for them. Everyone is busy so we find a time and location that you feel is comfortable and local.

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9. **Our matches exceed the national mentoring average**
The minimum commitment is a year but almost all of our matches have lasted for several. Each friendship meets twice a month to ensure that the pair grows and develops together.

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10. **We are honored to do this work**
We are tremendously grateful to all the volunteers who choose to spend their time with us. Tuesday’s Children is humbled by the families that trust us and welcome us into their lives.

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Ian and Nick
Mentor and Mentee for 9 years

Ian and Nick at age 11
Ian and Nick at age 13
Nick at age 19