

# VOLUNTEER MENTOR PROGRAM

## OUR MISSION

Tuesday's Children provides a lifetime of healing for families who have been forever changed by terrorism, military conflict or mass violence.

Ian and Nick  
Mentor and Mentee for 9 years



Ian (mentor) and Nick (mentee) at age 10

**Are you searching for a volunteer opportunity to mentor a child or sibling of one of our nation's fallen military heroes?**

**Have you thought about supporting a child as they walk their own post loss journey? If so, Tuesday's Children wants to hear from you.**

Tuesday's Children is actively recruiting for our mentoring program established exclusively for Gold Star children and siblings. This custom designed program fills the gaps in services offered to families of the fallen with children 6-18\* years old. Our Military Initiative Mentoring Program was created based on the long term healing model that Tuesday's Children has gained international recognition for. Experts in the field of child development, grief/bereavement and child safety have guided Tuesday's Children to build a well-established and highly impactful offering that can change the trajectory of children's lives. Mentors can offer advice, share life experiences, help a young person navigate challenges and have fun! So many mentors often share that their mentoring relationship changed their life for the better just as much as they have changed the life of a child.

Volunteers are recruited, screened, trained and managed by professional staff to safeguard that every adult is committed and qualified for playing an active role in the healing of a child. Gold Star families are interviewed and oriented to get to know every child and parent to ensure they are also dedicated to the mentoring experience. Matches between a mentor and a child are made based on common interests, personality traits and within a reasonable geographic distance.



Ian and Nick at age 11



Ian and Nick at age 13



Nick at age 19

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Adults, over the age of 21, who want to make a difference. All those expressing interest must be able to commit to being an active volunteer by visiting with the child, in their home or in the community, twice a month for a year or longer. For a higher more positive impact, Tuesday's Children recognizes the importance in engaging in our mentoring program to exceed the minimum commitment past one year. Screening will include a background check, a driving record check and other vital child safety precautions.

## WHAT RESEARCH TELLS US ABOUT WHY MENTORING IS SO IMPORTANT

Studies show that mentoring youths reduces their risk of participating in risky behaviors, lessens depressive symptoms, can reduce truancy and are more likely to participate in extracurricular activities. Mentoring promotes positive social attitudes and youths tend to have a higher level of trust with their surviving solo parent.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

A staff member from Tuesday's Children will contact you to answer your questions and discuss next steps. If there is a child waiting in your area, our staff will meet with you one on one to learn more about you.

## TIME COMMITMENT

Commit to meeting twice a month for a year or longer in the community or the child's home. Take the lead on the communication with the staff at Tuesday's Children and with the mentee and their surviving parent.

## HOW TO GET STARTED

Contact Senior Director of Mentoring, Sara, at [sara@tuesdayschildren.org](mailto:sara@tuesdayschildren.org) to start this exciting process!

\*Recommended enrollment years are 6-16 years old.

For more information, call 212-332-2980 or contact [Sara@tuesdayschildren.org](mailto:Sara@tuesdayschildren.org).

## MENTORSHIP THROUGH THE DECADE: THE STORY OF IAN AND NICK

Ian and Nick were matched in 2006 in Rockland County, NY. Ian, an attorney, wanted to be more involved with the community. Nick, who lost his father (an NYPD ESU officer) on 9/11, was seeking a companion with whom to watch football and play video games.

Throughout the years, Nick and Ian have skated in Rockefeller Center, watched and played football and baseball, and had the opportunity to meet various members of the NY Yankees, including the great Mariano Rivera. Ian supported from the sidelines as Nick became a starting football player and Ian was honored that Nick's Mom attended his wedding. Nick had expressed early on that he wanted to serve in our armed forces and is now proudly serving in the U.S. Marines.



This program is made possible in part by an NFL-BWF Salute to Service partnership.

