

# MILITARY MENTORING 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

**Tuesday's Children is actively recruiting potential mentor volunteers and interested families with children between the ages 6-18 for our Military Mentoring Program.**

Gold Star children and siblings can face debilitating and overwhelming grief after the loss of their parent or a sibling. The death of a service member is often sudden and complicated by feelings of isolation, confusion and the pressures and expectations of a fallen hero's family and community.

Our Military Mentoring Program was created based upon our Long-Term Healing Model, for which Tuesday's Children has gained international recognition. 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!

Volunteers are recruited, screened, trained and managed by a 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 being within a reasonable geographic distance.

Given the transient culture and rural areas they reside in, many Gold Star military families are not in locations that services are easily accessed. Knowing there are geographical and travel limitations for mentor/mentee relationships, Tuesday's Children is exploring a digital mentoring offering that would be a hybrid of online communication and semiannual visits. Our staff is speaking with experts in the field of telementoring and examining data to establish a program that meets the needs of these families. Tuesday's Children would be the first to establish a telementoring program to meet the needs of Gold Star youth throughout the United States.



Ian and Nick at age 11



Ian and Nick at age 13



Nick at age 19

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Children, 6-18, who have lost a military parent or sibling post-9/11.

## WHAT RESEARCH TELLS US

Studies show that mentoring youth reduces their risk of participating in risky behaviors, lessens depressive symptoms, can reduce truancy and make 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.

## HOW TUESDAY'S CHILDREN CAN USE YOUR HELP

Please share this program with family, co-workers and friends. Our pilot program is focused on the tri-state NY area, however it will be rapidly expanding to Pennsylvania, D.C., Dallas, San Diego and other areas where military families of the fallen reside.

## TO LEARN MORE

Contact Senior Director of Mentoring, Sara, at [Sara@tuesdayschildren.org](mailto:Sara@tuesdayschildren.org).

\*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.

Thank you to our partners who make this program possible.



[www.tuesdayschildren.org](http://www.tuesdayschildren.org)