

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE **about the one-to-one ministry of *One-2-One Mentors Ohio***



I. AM I QUALIFIED TO WORK WITH A HURTING CHILD?

“Who am I that I should go?,” is a question that was asked by both Moses and Gideon after God called them. We are not looking for counselors, social workers or psychologists (although we gladly welcome you if you are). We are looking for men and women who have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and sense His call on their life to enter this mission field of one to share the love and hope that He has brought into their lives with a hurting child or the parent of one of the children.

II. WHAT HAVE OTHER VOLUNTEERS EXPERIENCED?

A Christian Mentoring Ministry surveyed their mentors. They told us the following:

- 99% were glad they were matched
- 100% would recommend the ministry to a friend who was looking to become involved in a ministry
- 100% would recommend the ministry to a family that had a hurting or at-risk child

III. WHO PICKS THE TYPE OF CHILD AND HIS/HER BACKGROUND?

You are always in control of whether or not to meet a child, however, we only match volunteers with children of the same gender. Your ministry staff will prayerfully select children to tell you about based on proximity, common interests and personality styles.

IV. WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS & HOW LONG IS THE COMMITMENT TO WORK WITH A HURTING YOUTH?

You Must:

- Be 21 years of age or older and have access to transportation
- Be a Christian for a minimum of one year.
- Be a member of a church for a minimum of one year.
- Be interviewed, screened and trained by a One-2-One Mentors partner.
- Commit to a relationship of one year for 2-4 hours a week at your own schedule.

However, the majority of the volunteers do decide to continue their relationship into a second and third year, and often longer. After the first year the volunteers and kids may contract to meet every other week or once a month.

V. HOW OLD ARE THE KIDS?

They range in age from 8-18, but you can choose the age of child with whom you will be matched with.

VI. DOES THE CHILD COME TO LIVE WITH ME?

No, you pick the child up at their home at a time you arrange with the child and the child's parent or guardian and spend quality time together with your match doing things that are of interest to both of you.

VII. WHAT DO I DO WITH MY ASSIGNED CHILD?

Spend 2-4 hours a week with your assigned child. We will assist you in planning the things you will do. Your relationship may be built around riding bicycles, cooking, sewing, playing basketball, or whatever else you both enjoy doing. It is the simple things that God often uses to build relationship. It is relationship that God uses to communicate His love, and it is His love that draws them to Himself.

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VIII. WHAT ARE THESE KIDS LIKE?

All the kids come from unique situations, yet their needs are the same. They need to experience the unconditional love and the unwavering support of a friend and role model. The majority of the kids come from broken homes. Some have experienced or witnessed an abusive relationship or other issues that break up families. Oftentimes these kids have few if any positive adult role models in their lives. Their self-esteem is usually crushed. However, the children have indicated a desire to be matched with a Christian volunteer "friend." They are not forced into a match relationship. They are open to and usually excited about the prospect of being matched.

IX. WHO WILL HELP ME IN THIS MINISTRY?

If you choose to consider being a missionary to one child, you will be assigned to a Mentor Supervisor. He/She will offer the support, guidance and training you will need throughout your consideration process and on through your relationship should you ultimately be matched.

X. WILL TWO TO FOUR HOURS A WEEK REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHEN THEY STILL LIVE IN THE SAME TROUBLED ENVIRONMENT OR CIRCUMSTANCES?

Our experience with hundreds of kids tells us that if a Christian volunteer is consistent in their relationship with their match, that child can change dramatically. Oftentimes a One-2-One mentor is the only adult who has ever expressed consistent love or respect. The volunteer lights up the child's world and it is through that illumination that they sense God's love and are often drawn to a relationship with Him. The kids that do accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior are the kids that obviously show the most dramatic changes in their lives.

XI. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

In a few days a ministry staff person will contact you to answer any other questions you may have. If after these initial steps, you and our ministry staff person agree that you should continue in the process to be matched, we will lead you through the few remaining steps. These steps are designed to allow you to move forward at your own pace and to offer you the opportunity to decide if you will continue. They are not difficult and you are never rushed. We will guide you and assist you along the way.

The final steps in the process include some training by the ministry to help you begin your match relationship, as well as other steps which are designed to protect the children. They would be an interview, a background check and references from your Pastor, a friend, your employer and spouse or closest family member.

Once you have completed these steps you and your Mentor Supervisor will have a final meeting to discuss if you should be matched. If you and your Mentor Supervisor are in agreement, you will be ready to be matched and have the chance to bring God's love, hope and future in the life of a child and their family.