

Keeping Confidentiality

As a mentor, you are privileged to a lot of very personal information. As your assigned mother fills out an application for ONE BY ONE mentoring, she will generally include some sensitive information. Then, as you visit each month, the mother might share things about her family and her life that are very personal and confidential. It is important that all mentors treat the things the mother shares as part of a sacred trust between the mentor and the mother and her family.

We suggest that you let the mother know early in your visits that you have a prayer partner who joins you in praying for the mother, her baby, and the rest of the assigned family. Let the mother know that you will share prayer requests for her and her family with your prayer partner *only* if it's all right with the mother. Make it a habit while you're visiting with the mother each month to ask her if you may share her prayer requests with your prayer partner. Then, please be honorable in keeping your word to the mother.

As you share stories with your coordinator, be mindful again of confidentiality issues. We want the mother to know she can trust you.

Many mothers like to share their success stories with their babies with others. These are the stories we like to put in the newsletter and share with our Board, donors, and with other mentors. Always ask the mother first before sharing her story widely with others. If you have baby or family photos of your assigned family to share with other ONE BY ONE staff and mentors, please get written permission for us to use the photographs.

Let your church know that you can take copies of the church newsletter, letters from the pastor, or other church-related materials to the family. *Please do not put your assigned family's name on the church mailing list without the family's direct permission.*

These are just a few ways we can protect the confidentiality of our client families and build their trust with us. Helping to build their trust in us also contributes to helping them build their trust in the Lord later. Thank you!