

Remember Who We Are

ONE BY ONE was created to have an impact on this generation and the next by touching the lives of moms and moms-to-be. If you have made initial contact and are now making regular visits, you are experiencing the excitement, joy, and satisfaction that the mentoring relationship can bring. Most of our client families respond well to the activity suggestions and parenting ideas we bring into the home.

In some mentoring situations you might also be experiencing some of the frustration and concern that comes from seeing the needs and problems of some of our client families. These families might live in neighborhoods that look less than desirable. They may face questions for which we don't always have the answers.

In both the ideal settings and the not-so-perfect situations, ONE BY ONE Mentors can be a source of hope and help. To be of the greatest benefit to a mom and her family, we have to recognize that we can't solve all problems and meet all needs. We encourage mentors to NOT give money to the family they are visiting. We encourage you to NOT become the transportation system for the mom you are visiting. Meeting these kinds of needs could very well destroy the one thing ONE BY ONE Mentors do best...develop a one-to-one caring relationship with the mom.

What we **can do** is significant. We can bring encouragement to the mom, letting her know she is doing a good job. We can help the mom bond with her baby. We can show her how to work with her baby to increase her baby's learning capability. We can help her recognize safety dangers (hazards) and help her find positive ways to discipline her child. Sometimes we can help her find answers by providing her with phone numbers of helping agencies. At other times, we can link the mom with our church and its benevolence ministry. We can pray for the mom and her family; and, we can make an eternal difference by sharing Christ with them. All of these things make a huge difference.

Thank you for your devotion to your ministry. As you make your monthly visits, you are making a difference one baby, one mom, and one family at a time. You are fantastic!