



TIPS AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE MATCHING PROCESS

Considerations for Matching

- Comprehensive assessments of families, clients and volunteers
- An interviewer trained in dealing with **diversity**
- Common **interests** (i.e., vocational, educational, recreational)
- Parent/guardian **approval**
- **Goals** for the mentee: educational enrichment, self-esteem enhancement, cultural enrichment, family and peer relationship improvement
- Childhood upbringing, culture, religion
- Life **experiences**: absence of parent in household, growing up as the oldest child in a large family, death of a parent, raised by a grandparent
- Expressed **preferences**: Race, gender, culture, sexual orientation, age
- **Strengths** and weaknesses of volunteer and mentee
- Willingness and ability to **travel**

Match Determination:

- Similarity of proposed match participants
- Compatibility of values and attitudes
- Mutuality of interests
- Geographic proximity (a potential key to the success and longevity of a match)

Courtesy of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America.