

2. Loss of a Life

The camp director of a day camp that serves campers with medical conditions and disabilities called to report that due to an underlying medical condition a camper had a medical emergency, was transported to a hospital, and consequently passed away.

What can we learn from this case?

Policies and Risk Management	Staff Training	Key Takeaway
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does your camp have a crisis communication plan for multiple scenarios? • Does your camp have an emergency action plan? • Does your camp know who to contact for grief counseling for staff and campers? • How can you appropriately support the deceased camper's family? • Did you consult your insurance carrier for instructions on how to report the situation? • Did you involve legal counsel when preparing public statements or communications to staff and camper families? • Who is designated to speak to the media? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are staff trained to implement your emergency action plan? • Does staff know with whom to discuss information or what they are able to discuss related to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, or HIPAA, rules? 	<p>Proper planning will help you feel prepared in a crisis situation.</p>

Resource

Helping Children Cope with Loss, Death and Grief Tips for Teachers and Parents: [ACAcamps.org/sites/default/files/resource_library/hottopics/Tips-help-child-deal-death-grief.pdf](https://www.acacamps.org/sites/default/files/resource_library/hottopics/Tips-help-child-deal-death-grief.pdf)

