



**Communication Death of a Camper or Staff Member:**

**6.2 Does the Camp have a policy for dealing with the communication of the death of a camper or staff member?**

**Intent:** Camp Directors are often notified of the death of a camper or a relapse or change in the condition of a camper. It is beneficial to camp to have given some consideration to whether it is appropriate for them to pass this information on to staff, keeping in mind camper confidentiality issues and how to most effectively communicate the information.

Campers-Yes. Information is shared about a child's medical condition only if the parent asks the Smile-A-Mile Staff to inform certain people within the Smile-A-Mile community.

Information about the death of a camper is made known to their specific assigned volunteer cabin counselor(s). Our program has adopted the policy if once a patient dies, it becomes a public record, with online and printed obituaries, therefore, the HIPPA privacy policy is not violated.

Also, with social media today, a lot of parents have 'friended' their child's cabin counselor(s) as well as other activity staff, therefore, information about a child's condition/death, is shared much faster than our staff can alert others.

Staff- Yes. Information is shared about a volunteer staff's medical condition only if they ask the Smile-A-Mile staff to inform certain people within the Smile-A-Mile community.

Information about the death of a volunteer staff member is made known to the camp community since it becomes public record with online and printed obituaries.

Also, with social media today, a lot of parents and volunteer have 'friended' many of the Smile-A-Mile volunteers, therefore, their condition/death, is shared much faster than our staff can alert others.