

# Camp Mission

To provide a safe place for kids to express feelings related to the death of a loved one—a parent, grandparent, sibling, friend or anyone else close to the child.

## Registration

To register, call the Hospice Grief Center at (605) 719-7722 or (800) 209-5719. The cost of the camp is \$5 per child or \$10 per family. Scholarships are available.

## What to Know

- People at camp know what it is like to have a loss.
- The camp is full of fun activities.
- You can be yourself.
- You are safe and respected.
- You will meet other kids who are grieving.
- Lunch and snack are provided.
- Camp counselors and volunteers have been screened and are supervised by Hospice of the Hills.
- You will have legacy crafts to take home.

# Ways to Help Kids Cope With Death

- Be honest and direct. Explain plainly and truthfully what happened and be ready to answer any questions.
- Share your feelings with the child. Allow the child to see your sadness and comfort you.
- Accept and acknowledge the emotions the child expresses. Don't tell the child how he or she should feel.
- Be patient. Know that children need to hear "the story" and ask the same questions again and again.
- Know that children may have short periods of intense grief, followed by periods of appearing not to think about the loss for weeks, even months, after the death.
- Maintain as much order, stability and security as possible in the child's life.
- Offer love and your physical presence and affection.

After the kids begin their day, the Hospice Grief Counselor will offer a one-hour workshop for parents and other family members at the camp.



## Kid's Day Camp

## Day Camp for Kid's who are Grieving



YOUTH & FAMILY  
SERVICES

## A Little Hope, Inc.



Children's  
Miracle Network  
hospitals helping kids



RAPID CITY  
REGIONAL HOSPITAL  
Hospice of the Hills

\*Wakanyéja (pronounced Wah-KAN-shja) is a Lakota term for children, literally meaning Sacred Belings. Children, with their honesty and openness lead us to sacred spaces of healing and personal growth.

*"I didn't know any other kids who hurt like I did. I don't feel so alone now."*

*— Past Wakanyeja Camper*

**C**amp Wakanyeja, sponsored by Children's Miracle Network and Hospice of the Hills, is a one-day camp for children who have experienced a loss through death. The Camp is part of our outreach to children of families that have been touched by death. It is designed for those who are experiencing very normal feelings of loss and sadness.

The camp is run by professionals who work in the fields of hospice, grief and child development. The camp offers kids a safe place to openly express their feelings, to meet other children who may be experiencing similar emotions, and to have fun together while learning coping skills.

The day includes:

- Music
- Crafts
- Small Group Discussions
- One-on-one sharing
- Lunch
- Family workshop
- Closing Memorial Service

# Hospice of the Hill's Grief Center

**W**hen we lose someone we love, it is easy to feel alone. The Grief Center offers education opportunities about grief, support groups, and personal follow-up for hospice families. The Grief Counselor may also work with families who have not used Hospice of the Hills.

Grief Center services are for people of all ages. If you are interested in services or participating as a sponsor for Hospice's grief programs, please call (605) 719-7722.

*"The past year has been the most challenging of my life. The encouragement from support group and the grief counselor has been a lifeline for me."* — Hospice Family Member

# Camp Wakanyeja Interest Form

Call (605) 719-7722 or mail this form to Hospice of the Hills, 224 Elk Street, Rapid City SD 57701. Information will be mailed to you after we have received this form.

Adult's Name \_\_\_\_\_

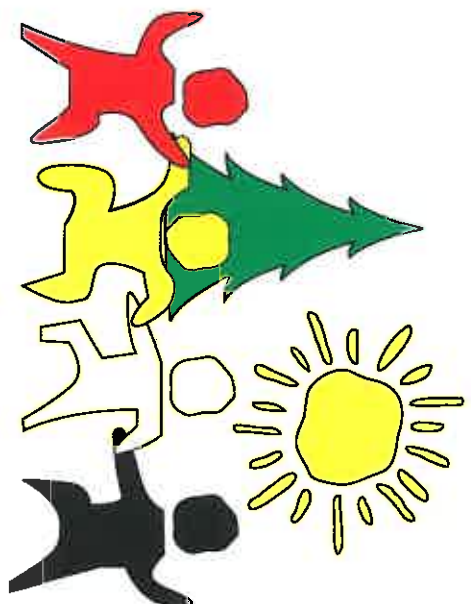
Adult's Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_



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