

STATEMENT FROM SEATTLE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL:

We do not provide details about specific cases out of respect for privacy, but we were deeply saddened when we learned Jordan passed away. It's a terrible tragedy anytime a child or teen dies by suicide – a tragedy that no parent should ever have to face. There is a tremendous need for improved access to mental health care and resources for children and youth all across the country, and we share the community's concern about the increasing issue of suicide in youth.

At Seattle Children's, we're committed to improving mental health care for children and teens and we've taken several steps to address this need. We doubled the size of our Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine Unit, we established routine screening for suicide risk among all youth 12 and older, and we provide crisis prevention and safety planning to all at-risk youth and their families. When a provider determines that a patient is at risk for suicide or self-harm, we begin treatment using the Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality approach, and we implement an intensive treatment program. Additionally, we've worked to improve mental health care in the region through the development of the Partnership Access Line that supports primary care providers as they treat patients with mental health issues, we provide Youth Mental Health First Aid classes to adults in the community, and we advocate locally and nationally for improved government policies and funding for mental health care.