Parents suffer from exhaustion due to lack of sleep, stress and changes in their normal routine. Any one of these can cause your memory to fail at a time when you least expect it. Even the best of parents or caregivers can overlook a sleeping baby in a car; and the end result can be injury or even death.

In the weeks prior to Remi’s passing, she had been sick and not going to daycare. Remi’s father usually took her to daycare, but had fallen asleep after a night shift in the ER. So, Remi’s mother decided to take her. Exhausted from a sleepless night with a sick baby and running late, she drove straight to work on auto-pilot, losing awareness that Remi was asleep in her rear-facing car seat. It wasn’t until the end of her shift as a nurse that she realized Remi was never dropped off. Remi died that day from heatstroke in her mother’s car at only 21-months-old.

Please share with your spouse, family, friends, co-workers and child care providers.
Create simple habits to help keep your child safe.

**MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS NEVER LEFT ALONE IN A CAR:**

- Make a habit of opening the back door every time you park to ensure no one is left behind.
- To enforce this habit, place an item that you can’t start your day without in the back seat (employee badge, laptop, phone, handbag, etc.)
- Clearly announce and confirm who is getting each child out of the vehicle. Miscommunication can lead to everyone thinking someone else removed the child.
- Ask your child care provider to call you right away if your child hasn’t arrived as scheduled.

**MAKE SURE CHILDREN CANNOT GET INTO A PARKED CAR:**

- Keep vehicles locked at all times, especially in the garage or driveway. Ask neighbors and visitors to do the same.
- Never leave car keys within reach of children.
- If a child is missing, immediately check the inside, floorboards and trunk of all vehicles in the area very carefully.
- Teach children to honk the horn if they become stuck inside a car.

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