Kansas and Missouri Chapters of the American Academy of Pediatrics issue joint statement in response to Kansas City Chiefs Celebration Shooting on February 14

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Together, the Kansas and Missouri Chapters of the American Academy of Pediatrics are devastated by the shooting yesterday during the Chiefs celebration in Kansas City. On behalf of our combined 1,600 members, we send our support to those who were injured and impacted by this senseless shooting. The loss of life, injuries sustained, and the countless fans and community members who are affected by yesterday’s shooting are in our thoughts - and in the prayers of the entire Chief’s Kingdom.

“From our hearts we thank the first responders and emergency personnel, including the members of our Kansas and Missouri Chapters, who provided care to those injured yesterday and in the days ahead and remain steadfast in our commitment to protecting the lives of children and families amidst these horrific events occurring all too often in our country,” said Dr. Maya Moody, DO, FAAP, President of the Missouri Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

“A day meant for unity and celebration turned tragic, leaving our community hurt and in shock. Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families and everyone who has been affected. As we support our friends and neighbors, please take care of yourselves and each other and ask for help. Pediatricians will continue to prioritize the safety and well-being of children and families as we work together through this difficult time.” said Dr. Gretchen Homan, MD, FAAP, President of the Kansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

As our communities join together to mourn this tragedy, the American Academy of Pediatrics has produced resources for medical providers and parents on how to talk to kids about experiencing tragedy and traumatic events and childhood exposure to violence. Additionally, we encourage those who are grieving to know help is available, including by calling or texting the 9-8-8 Crisis Hotline 24/7. As organizations dedicated to pediatric well-being, MOAAP and KAAP remain committed to championing the health and safety of children and families in Kansas and Missouri.

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