



A statement issued by the Board of Directors of SevenDays® regarding the violence at the Kansas City Chiefs Super Bowl Parade.

Almost 10 years ago, a joyful Sunday turned to catastrophe when a neo-Nazi gunned down three people at Jewish sites in the Kansas City area. Since then, the SevenDays® organization has been working to end such violence through dialogue and education.

But the shocking end of this week's joyful celebration of the Kansas City Chiefs' latest Super Bowl victory is evidence that much more needs to be done. And SevenDays® is committed to staying the course, with your help.

Gun violence near Union Station on Wednesday — which was both Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day — resulted in one person being killed and 22 others, including nine children, injured by gunfire.

Kansas City Mayor Quinton Lucas summed up the joy-to-disaster day: "Today was tragic for everyone who was part of it." The violence showed that the work of SevenDays® is far from over. The organization focuses its efforts in the metro area and now in 16 states beyond Missouri and Kansas. It teaches young people how to be Kindness Influencers.

In April, SevenDays® will sponsor its annual awards breakfast on April 10 and host a community kindness festival on April 14 (<https://sevendays.org/our-events>) to continue the work to help people resolve differences without resorting to violence.

SevenDays® began this healing journey after a white supremacist seeking to kill Jews murdered Dr. William Corporon, his grandson Reat Underwood and Teresa LaManno outside of Jewish facilities in April 2014. None of the three was Jewish.

As we always mention the names of Reat, Bill, and Terri when speaking out against hate and promoting kindness, let us extend kindness to one another as we work together to overcome hate wherever it appears — even at such happy events as Super Bowl victory celebrations.