



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 17, 2022

**Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester and Pathways To Peace
Host Second Community Shiva To Honor Victims of Gun Violence**

Rochester, New York - The Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester and Pathways To Peace announce that Monday, November 21 from 12:00-1:00 p.m. the Rochester community will come together at Parcel 5 (corner of Main Street/East Avenue) to honor the countless lives lost to gun violence and mass shootings.

Participants will observe “shiva,” the Jewish custom of mourning, which allows the bereaved to grieve together in community. Those attending will sit in silence in chairs placed on the green and hold signs bearing the names of victims of gun violence.

Co-organizer Anthony Hall says of the event, “Gun violence and all acts thereof in our community transcend any faith or denomination. We as a community must come together to rid our society of this sickness. We will honor those lost to this disease we call (gun) violence and tomorrow we continue to work together to strategize and implement ways to eradicate this ailment.”

Hall worked with Monica Gebell, Director of Community Relations at the Jewish Federation, to create a space where people from all walks of life can share grief and publicly show their solidarity. According to Gebell, “In a city as segregated as Rochester, the Jewish community wants to show up for our Black and Brown neighbors who’ve been directly impacted by gun violence. And in a time when our communities could be divided by what’s happening in pop culture, it’s more important than ever to stand together, face to face, shoulder to shoulder.”

Hall continued, “As Mayor Evans said, ‘We must all do our part,’ and shiva is one great example of OUR PART.”

The event is co-hosted by the Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester and Pathways To Peace, with support from the Levine Center to End Hate, the City of Rochester, and local faith organizations.

Additionally, donations of new or gently-used socks, boots, hats, and winter coats will be collected on-site at Parcel 5 and distributed to the community following the event at 57 St. Paul Street, headquarters of Pathways To Peace.

To register for the event and reserve a chair, go to <https://fb.me/e/2pa2ffya>. Registrants will be notified of any changes to the event due to weather. Handwarmers will be distributed.

For more information contact Monica Gebell, Director of Community Relations at the Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester at 585.241.8651 or mgebell@jewishrochester.org or Anthony Hall, Director, Pathways To Peace at Anthony.Hall@CityofRochester.gov.

#####