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Minnesota Alliance on Crime Statement on the Uvalde, Texas Mass Shooting of Children

Our hearts are broken, again. It becomes harder to find words as these mass shootings occur, one right after another.

Nineteen children will not grow up to realize their dreams and their parents will forever have holes in their hearts and lives. Two teachers will never be able to go home to their children and will not be there for the big events in their children's lives. While twenty-one innocent lives were ended in Uvalde, Texas yesterday, hundreds of others experienced trauma that will take a lifetime to process.

MAC, once again, begs state and federal leaders to **ACT NOW** and pass common sense gun laws. But, we can't stop there. Mental health services need to be readily available in all communities. Bi-partisan listening sessions need to be held across the country with the communities that have been traumatized and ravaged by gun violence. We need to see and value the humanity in each other.

MAC will continue to work in Minnesota to tell the stories of those lost to gun violence and support survivors who face the task of healing and rebuilding their lives. MAC opposes the use of all forms of violence and affirms the basic human right of every person to live without fear or the threat of victimization throughout the course of one's life.

How many innocent victims have to die before we can all admit the current system and processes that are meant to ensure guns are only put into the hands of responsible gun owners, is completely broken. We can't begin the journey to rebuild the systems without taking one meaningful step to do so.

About the Minnesota Alliance on Crime

The Minnesota Alliance on Crime connects systems, service providers, and victims to advance the response for victims of all crime. MAC is a membership coalition of more than 90 crime victim service providers in Minnesota, including prosecution-based victim/witness programs, community programs, law enforcement agencies, and individuals committed to supporting crime victims. We support our membership through training, technical assistance, resources, policy and legislative initiatives, and networking opportunities.