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The sleep-in activist at the memorial site of Rayshard Brooks mourns loss of 8-year old girl killed nearby and renews call for a Peace Center

Atlanta, GA, July 6, 2020 — Our team of community members, neighbors and activists, who have been gathered at the memorial site of Rayshard Brooks, located at 125 University Ave would first like to extend our deepest condolences and sympathy to the bereaved family and friends of the young 8-year old girl who was killed last night and the other child injured during the shooting that occurred in the surrounding area near University Avenue. We too mourn the loss of a young life gone too soon, and we ask for the community's prayers and support for all families impacted by this shooting at this time. To the family, we stand with you and are here for you.

We wish to make clear that no one from our group was involved in any way whatsoever in the shooting that took place and that incident did not take place at the site of the memorial, it would be misinformation to state otherwise. We have cooperated fully with local authorities as they investigate this shooting. Again we stress while this unfortunate death occurred near the memorial site, none of our activists, community members or neighbors were involved in this shooting and we unequivocally denounce any affiliations or biased rhetoric that connects us with this heinous killing of a child.

Although our hearts are broken by another loss in the Black community, it only further affirms our mission to erect a peace center at this site. It only affirms the urgent need for healing and peace in this community as we continue to be targets of trauma and violence. It is our hope and our prayer to find peace in the midst of all of this tragedy and we hope others will join us. That is why we have already begun to create space for healing and restoration at this site as we stand in solidarity with our community demonstrating distinctly against violence and oppressive forces. As we mourn the loss of this little girl and our own loved ones, we will continue to create space here for healing for those impacted by violence in the surrounding communities as well. We invite our community, neighbors and allies to do the same with us as we all seek healing and peace.

If you would like more information about this topic, please visit <http://www.rayshardslaw.com/>