



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Erin Engelke, APR
Chief External Relations Officer
eengelke@sunbeamfamilyservices.org
405.609.2311

Sunbeam Family Services and OICA Launch Search for Oklahoma's Kid Governor

OKLAHOMA CITY -- Sunbeam Family Services and the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy (OICA) are looking to select its second Oklahoma Kid Governor to be the voice and face of the agencies' "Vote 4 Kids" campaign that will address statewide issues affecting the well-being of Oklahoma's children.

To be selected as Oklahoma Kid Governor, candidates must be between the ages of 7 and 11 years old, live in Oklahoma, and submit a one-minute campaign video to Sunbeam Family Services outlining:

- Who they are (name, age, school and where they live)
- Why they want to be Oklahoma's Kid Governor
- What qualities and skills as a spokesperson they will bring to the position
- Talk about an issue involving the state's children that they think is very important and why it's important. The issue could be child abuse and neglect, education, foster care, physical or mental health of children or any topic chosen by the candidate.

Videos longer than one minute will be disqualified.

The person selected as Kid Governor in this statewide search should be out-going, able to speak well, have a sense of humor and be passionate about helping other people—especially kids. In addition, the Kid Governor must be willing to travel to Oklahoma City to appear at live gatherings and in videos without compensation.

"Oklahoma Kid Governor will be a fun, but also a serious campaign to raise awareness about important matters affecting Oklahoma's children. Kids can't vote so we adults have to vote for kids by keeping them a high priority in our own house but also in the State House," said Jim Priest, CEO of Sunbeam Family Services.

Oklahoma's Kid Governor will be selected March 10, 2017 by committee members from Sunbeam and OICA and will serve until the Oklahoma Kids Count Conference in fall of 2017. Kid Governor will make his or her inaugural appearance at Sunbeam Family Services Shine A Light dinner at the Downtown Embassy Suites, April 13. Throughout the "Vote 4 Kids" campaign, he or she will do some public speaking and will appear in short video presentations

to help raise awareness of issues affecting children and to help make those issues a priority in the minds of Oklahoma's citizens and policy makers.

Oklahoma's first Kid Governor Justin Evers represented Oklahoma's children by helping to raise awareness about foster care, the need for quality education, poverty and hunger across the state.

Please submit your Oklahoma Kid Governor videos by **March 3, 2017** to Taprina Milburn at tmilburn@sunbeamfamilyservices.org or post to the Sunbeam Facebook Page www.facebook.com/SunbeamOKC.

About Sunbeam Family Services

Founded in 1907, Sunbeam Family Services is one of Oklahoma's longest serving nonprofits, providing help, hope and the opportunity to succeed to people of all ages and all stages of life in central Oklahoma through early childhood, counseling, foster care and senior services. To learn more, visit www.sunbeamfamilyservices.org or follow them on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

About the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy

Since its creation in 1983, the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy (OICA) has been the statewide, independent, non-partisan voice speaking on behalf of all of our state's children and their needs. OICA is a well-respected and trusted source of data, leadership, best-practice program strategies and effective policy solutions. To learn more, visit www.oica.org or follow them on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.