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## **Community Leaders Ray and Pat Potts Named Aspire Award Recipients**

### **Award to be Presented at Sunbeam Family Services Shine a Light Gala**

**OKLAHOMA CITY** – Sunbeam Family Services has named Ray and Pat Potts as its 2017 Aspire Award recipients. The Aspire Award is presented annually by Sunbeam to individuals, community change-makers, who have made a significant difference in the well-being of children, families or seniors.

Ray and Pat Potts are co-founders of the Community Resource Development Foundation and its successor, the Potts Family Foundation. Pat founded the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits and served as president and CEO for more than 20 years. She is also the founder of the Oklahoma Women's Coalition, an organization that promotes positive change in the lives of Oklahoma's women and girls. She previously served as president of the Oklahoma City School board, Oklahoma City Beautiful, the Zoo Trust and the Society of Fundraising Executives. Ray was a lieutenant in the United States Air Force and co-founded PSEC Inc., an Oklahoma independent oil and gas producing company which he later sold to ONEOK. He has served as chairman of the Natural Gas Committee of the Independent Association of Petroleum Geologists of America and for eight years as member of the State Board of Education and later as the first president of the Oklahoma City Public Schools Foundation.

"When you think about inspiring examples in the Oklahoma nonprofit community, the names Ray and Pat Potts immediately come to mind. This couple walks their talk; they live the life they encourage others to live by what they do and how they give of their time, talent and treasure, not only to Sunbeam, but to many other organizations," said Sunbeam Family Services CEO Jim Priest. "I, personally, aspire to be more like Ray and Pat and the way they inspire others is a key reason they were selected by the committee for this award."

Winners of the Aspire Award are selected by a committee based on their level of service to the community, alignment with the mission of Sunbeam Family Services, and their impact on children, families or senior citizens. The Aspire Award will be presented at the 2017 Shine a Light fundraising gala April 13 at the Downtown Embassy Suites.

Last year's winner was the late Sandy Trudgeon, a longtime Sunbeam supporter, who served three board terms from 2005-2014. She helped to lead the organization's Centennial Celebration, OKC Educare's groundbreaking and dedication and the *New Home Forever Family Capital Campaign*.

Tickets to the Shine gala may be purchased for \$150 each. To purchase tickets, learn more about the event or sponsor a table, contact Sunbeam Family Services Director of Development Katherine Craig at 405.609.8994 or email [kcraig@sunbeamfamilyservices.org](mailto:kcraig@sunbeamfamilyservices.org).

#### About Sunbeam Family Services

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