

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Feb. 6, 2019

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**Sunbeam Kicks Off Campaign to Raise \$65,000 through March 31 for
Emergency Senior Shelter**
Donations Fill Funding Shortage, Help Homeless Seniors

(OKLAHOMA CITY) – In the Oklahoma City metro-area, more than 1,100 residents are homeless, including 260 homeless seniors age 55 and older. Year-round, Sunbeam Family Services works to end senior homelessness through its Emergency Senior Shelter, the state’s only shelter equipped to assist homeless seniors. Through March 31, Sunbeam is asking the community to join them in raising \$65,000 to continue providing this vital program to homeless seniors.

“Your support is crucial to provide hope and restore dignity for our Oklahoma seniors,” said Jim Priest, chief executive officer of Sunbeam. “We anticipate a shortage of \$65,000 in funding to support homeless seniors through our Emergency Senior Shelter. With your help, we can continue to provide life changing services for seniors like Lon, a recent resident of the Emergency Senior Shelter who had “nowhere to go.”

Lon said it was the “darkest time” in his life. Through Sunbeam’s wraparound services, Lon worked with a supportive case manager, completed counseling sessions and at the end of his stay with Sunbeam, Lon was a new man with a positive outlook on life.

“Sunbeam became my family and helped me deal with my grief,” said Lon. “Today, I have a place of my own to call home.”

Last fiscal year, 99 homeless seniors aged 60 and older sought safety in the Emergency Senior Shelter, many of whom were without a family support system and had a limited monthly income. The shelter is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and is supported by therapists from Sunbeam’s Counseling program.

During their stay, residents receive home-cooked meals, a warm bed and weekly laundry services along with comprehensive case management, including an individualized plan developed to support them in their path toward permanency. The efforts of the Emergency Senior Shelter have resulted in a 94 percent success rate in homeless seniors finding a permanent place to call home.

“Your donation gives hope to our Oklahoma senior neighbors and restores their dignity,” said Priest. “Please consider making an investment in our seniors by helping close the \$65,000 shortage.”

To join Sunbeam in giving hope and restoring dignity, visit sunbeamfamilyservices.org/dignity or call 405-609-8994.

Sunbeam’s mission is to provide people of all ages with help, hope, and the opportunity to succeed through Early Childhood, Foster Care, Counseling and Senior Services.

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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, call 405-528-7721, visit sunbeamfamilyservices.org, or join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.