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[Download a photo of O'Kane.](#)

Patrick O'Kane Appointed Vice Chair of the Oklahoma Long-Term Care Service and Support Advisory Committee

(OKLAHOMA CITY) – Patrick O'Kane, director of Senior Services at Sunbeam Family Services, has been appointed vice chair of the Oklahoma Long-Term Care Service and Support Advisory Committee. This committee will develop a long-range plan for senior services in Oklahoma.

"It's an honor to be nominated by House Speaker McCall to work with leaders from throughout the state to develop long-range plans for Access, Education, Funding Work Force, and Regulation, that will address the need of Oklahoma's aging population – this is our mission this year," O'Kane says. "This is an opportunity to provide direct insight and feedback as to how the state can work to rebalance federal and state dollars for improved health outcomes."

O'Kane has spent 20 years advocating for senior adults. At Sunbeam, O'Kane oversees the organization's Senior Services program. Last year, this program helped 4,552 senior adults stay active, connect to their communities, and live in their own homes longer. Ninety-four percent of clients served by Sunbeam's Senior Services program were at or below the poverty line, which is \$1,041 per month for one individual.

The Emergency Senior Shelter is just one of the services provided by Sunbeam to support senior adults. As the state's only shelter equipped to assist homeless seniors, the shelter is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and is supported by therapists from Sunbeam's Counseling program. 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.

Through March 31, Sunbeam is asking the community to join them in "giving hope and restoring dignity" for Oklahoma's homeless seniors through raising \$65,000 to fund Sunbeam's Emergency Senior Shelter. For more information, 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.