

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

March 19, 2019

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**Sunbeam Seeks Donations to Help Homeless Seniors**  
***Time is Running out to Double Your Impact***

**(OKLAHOMA CITY)** – Time is running out to double your impact to end senior homelessness through Sunbeam's Emergency Senior Shelter, the state's only shelter equipped to assist homeless seniors aged 55 and older.

Through March 31, Sunbeam Family Services invites the community to join them in raising \$65,000 to support homeless seniors. The nonprofit has identified a \$65,000 shortage in funding this year and support is needed to continue providing this crucial service. In order to help meet this need, Randy Thurman, CPA, CFP has stepped up to offer a \$5,000 match.

In the Oklahoma City metro-area, 260 homeless seniors age 55 and older are homeless. Last fiscal year, 99 homeless seniors aged 55 and older sought safety in Sunbeam's 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. Seniors like Cheryl and Eugene.

Cheryl and Eugene found themselves in a hopeless situation, walking on foot from Ohio to California. Before coming to Sunbeam's Emergency Senior Shelter they were living in their car with nowhere to turn.

"And I walked, and sometimes my leg would give out and I would fall, but I would get back up and go again, keep on going," said Cheryl. Thankfully, Cheryl and Eugene found Sunbeam just in time.

"They helped me find the place where I stay at now and I love that place, and it's really good," said Cheryl. "I feel safe today, thanks to Sunbeam. I feel real safe."

Cheryl and Eugene now have a permanent home and they're learning just how special Oklahomans can make them feel. "Real nice, real loving," Eugene said. "Just like a sister or a brother."

To join Sunbeam in giving hope and restoring dignity, visit [sunbeamfamilyservices.org/dignity](http://sunbeamfamilyservices.org/dignity) or call 405-609-8994.

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**About Sunbeam Family Services**

Founded in 1907, Sunbeam Family Services is one of Oklahoma's longest serving nonprofits and is one of the original United Way of Central Oklahoma Community partners. Sunbeam's mission is to provide 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](http://sunbeamfamilyservices.org), or join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.