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Volunteers at the Heart of Sunbeam
Sunbeam Celebrates National Volunteer Week

(OKLAHOMA CITY) – In observance of National Volunteer Week (April 7-13, 2019), Sunbeam Family Services is recognizing its community and corporate volunteers for supporting Sunbeam through generous acts of volunteerism. National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to celebrate the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to tackle society's greatest challenges, to build stronger communities and be a force that transforms the world.

“By donating their time and talents, volunteers help Sunbeam keep their admin and fundraising costs below 10 percent to help nearly 15,000 central Oklahomans each year,” said Jane Meeks, director of community engagement. “Volunteers are crucial in supporting Sunbeam’s mission of providing people of all ages with help, hope and the opportunity to succeed through Early Childhood, Foster Care, Counseling and Senior Services.”

Last fiscal year alone, 706 volunteers donated 2,118 hours of services, saving Sunbeam more than \$52,000 in labor costs. Volunteers like Sarah Weller.

“Our teams here at Chesapeake love giving back to the community through volunteering with Sunbeam!” said Weller with Chesapeake Energy Corporation. “The staff is always so pleasant to work with and everything is always so well organized. Everyone has a story, wants to feel loved and cared about, and everyone deserves to feel special and noticed. It’s always about people and making connections.”

Sunbeam’s dedicated volunteers serve in various capacities, including participation in annual events like the Shine A Light gala, which is on May 2. Volunteers also serve as reading buddies for children enrolled in Sunbeam’s Early Childhood program and assist with child care during foster care in-service training for foster parents.

Volunteers include: Sunbeam’s Board of Directors, Friends of Sunbeam (Sunbeam’s auxiliary volunteer group), and the Beacons, Sunbeam’s young professionals group.

In addition to countless individuals, parents and community members, Sunbeam would also like to thank various corporate volunteers and community partners that engage with Sunbeam throughout the year or through annual events: Accounting Principles, Ad2OKC, American Fidelity, Arvest Bank, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma, Burns and McDonnell, Chesapeake, CP&Y, Enable Midstream, Heartland Payment Systems, Homes by Taber, Junior Service League of Oklahoma City, OK Proton Center, and Oseberg.

For more information about volunteering with Sunbeam, contact Jane Meeks, director of community engagement, at 405-609-1755 or jmeeks@sunbeamfamilyservices.org. For more information on the Shine A Light gala on May 2 visit ShineALightOKC.org 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, or join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.