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Sunbeam's Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program Provides Support, Opportunity for Hands-On Science Fun

(OKLAHOMA CITY) – Scott Douglas with Discover Science Assemblies provided an exciting science show for children in Sunbeam's Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG) program. Children participated in hands-on experiments, including explosions, slime, bouncy balls and more.

"I think it is awesome science can be presented with so much fun and excitement! Children learn better when they are having fun! Sunbeam does so much for all of us and we appreciate their care," said Tammy, who participates in the GRG program with her grandson, Cory.

Douglas, who is a caregiver for his mother, is also involved in Sunbeam's Caregiver Fundamentals Program, which provides monthly support groups, assistance and counseling to families caring for loved ones.

"What the caregiver support group has shown me, is that it's most important to take care of yourself, then you can be available to help others." Douglas has a passion for science and looks for opportunities to share it with children. He is working on "filling his cup", finding himself and remembering his own self-care.

Launched in 2003, Sunbeam's Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program empowers grandparents through monthly support groups and helps with assistance like school supplies.

Through June 30, Sunbeam is accepting school supply assistance applications for grandparents, age 55 and older, who are raising their own grandchildren in the absence of parents in the home and live in Oklahoma, Cleveland, Canadian or Logan County. The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren school supply program at Sunbeam provides pre-qualified grandparents with backpacks filled with grade-specific school supplies for their grandchildren, helping to eliminate the financial burden of back to school expenses and ensuring their grandchildren are prepared for the upcoming school year.

Qualified grandfamilies who would like to apply for this program can download an application at sunbeamfamilyservices.org/GRG, pick up an application at Sunbeam Family Services at 1100 NW 14th Street, Oklahoma City, or call 405-609-1904 for more information. This year, 450 children will benefit from the school supply assistance program and space is still available.

Sunbeam helps children, families and seniors learn, grow, heal and thrive. The nonprofit'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.

Through June 30, Sunbeam is asking the community to join them in reaching their goal of raising \$5,000 to empower Oklahoma families and individuals and break the cycle of poverty. Thanks to Sunbeam employees, donations will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$2,200. Last year alone, nearly 15,000 Oklahomans benefited from Sunbeam's services. For more information, visit sunbeamfamilyservices.org/familymatch 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 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.