

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Aug. 16, 2019

**CONTACT:**

Angie Doss

Chief External Relations Officer

[adoss@sunbeamfamilyservices.org](mailto:adoss@sunbeamfamilyservices.org)

405.609.2311 (o) | 619.347.4057 (c)



**Fostering Hope This School Year**  
***Sunbeam Seeks Foster Families to Open Their Hearts, Homes***

**(OKLAHOMA CITY)** – This school year, Sunbeam Family Services is asking the community to open their hearts and homes by becoming a Foster Family. In Oklahoma alone, nearly 8,000 children are in state custody and in need of a loving home. Through the Foster Care program, Sunbeam works with families in Canadian, Cleveland, Grady, Logan, McClain and Oklahoma counties to provide a safe home for children.

Sunbeam’s Foster Care program serves children from birth to 17 years old. Foster Care staff are available 24/7, which means Foster Parents can call at any time for assistance. Sunbeam’s Foster Care staff also make monthly in-home visits and provide trainings for Foster Parents.

“To support the needs of foster parents and children, our Foster Families also have access to all of Sunbeam’s services, including counselors who are trauma certified and priority placement in our high-quality Early Childhood Services,” said Midge Woodard, MSW, director of Foster Care at Sunbeam.

Sunbeam works to certify families interested in providing care to siblings groups of two or more. Sibling relationships are emotionally powerful and critically important not only in childhood, but over the course of a lifetime.

“With your love and encouragement, you can change the course of a child’s life, by opening your home and heart,” said Woodard.

Sunbeam Foster Parents must be at least 21 years old and can be single or married. To learn more about becoming a foster parent, or to support Sunbeam Foster Families, visit [sunbeamfamilyservices.org/fostercare](http://sunbeamfamilyservices.org/fostercare) or contact Simyra Cooper at 405-609-8931 or [scooper@sunbeamfamilyservices.org](mailto:scooper@sunbeamfamilyservices.org).

Sunbeam has served Oklahoma’s children in foster care and their families for more than 100 years. Last year, Sunbeam placed 123 children in loving homes.

Join the movement to help children grow, heal, learn and thrive. Through Aug. 31, donations made to help children will be matched, dollar for dollar, up to \$5,000. This donation match is made possible thanks to Tall Oak Midstream. To donate visit [SunbeamFamilyServices.org/thrive](http://SunbeamFamilyServices.org/thrive) or call 405-609-8994.

###

[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](http://sunbeamfamilyservices.org), or join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.