****

**FOR** **IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Jan. 24, 2020

**CONTACT:**

Angie Doss

Chief External Relations Officer

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

405-609-2311 (o) | 619-347-4057 (c)

[**Download photos of the Kid Governor**](https://www.flickr.com/photos/sunbeamfamilyservices/albums/72157675014286318)

**Oklahoma Kid Governor’s Drive Supports Children in Foster Care**

*Drive Raised More than 100 Pairs of New Pajamas*

**(OKLAHOMA CITY)** – Last month, the community joined Oklahoma Kid Governor Luke Peterson in supporting children in foster care. Through “Luke’s Nighttime Supplies” drive, more than 100 pairs of new pajamas and 125 books were donated to Sunbeam Family Services. Local businesses Orthodontics Exclusively and The Bankers Bank participated as drop-off partners.

“I’d like to say thank you to everyone who made my Nighttime Supplies drive a success!” said Peterson. “Because of your generosity, we can help Oklahoma children in foster care have books and pajamas to call their own. Although these supplies seem so simple in nature, they will provide a huge impact for the kids receiving them. I encourage everyone to remember this is a year-round need and their contributions will help children in foster care with a sense of security, and hopefully provide sweet dreams for each of them.”

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.

“Children are often unable to bring their personal possessions with them when initially entering Foster Care,” said Midge Woodard, director of Foster Care at Sunbeam. “Children must have their basic needs met at placement, but it’s easy to forget about items like books and pajamas. Luke’s drive was important to help us meet this need.”

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 foster parents must be at least 21 years old and can be single or married.

To learn more about becoming a foster parent, or how to support Sunbeam’s Foster Families, visit [sunbeamfamilyservices.org/fostercare](https://sunbeamfamilyservices.org/fostercare) or contact Simyra Cooper at (405) 609.8931 or [scooper@sunbeamfamilyservices.org](mailto:scooper@sunbeamfamilyservices.org).

Established in 1907, Sunbeam is Oklahoma’s longest-serving social service agency. Each year, Sunbeam helps more than 10,500 Central Oklahomans with life-changing services through our robust Early Childhood Education program, long-standing Foster Care program, compassionate Counseling program and multifaceted Senior Services program.

###

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 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.