



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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[Photo of Rep. Horn at Pierce](#)

Congresswoman Kendra Horn Tours Pierce Early Childhood Center

(OKLAHOMA CITY) – Recently, Congresswoman Kendra Horn took a tour of Sunbeam Family Services' new Pierce Early Education Center.

"I was honored to be able to join Sunbeam to learn more about their work at Pierce and the critical services they provide for infants and toddlers," said Congresswoman Horn. "Their focus on early childhood education and evidence-based curriculum sets a critical foundation for student success when they enter the public school system. Time and time again, the research shows us that early childhood education makes a significant difference in educational success, health outcomes, and economic opportunities for the student's long-term. I'm so grateful for Sunbeam's leadership in our communities."

Pierce Early Education Center nurtures early learning for children from birth to three and closes the achievement gap of children who are facing obstacles to success. The early childhood center builds partnerships with families, walking alongside them to help with goal-setting and accessing community resources.

"We want to thank Congresswoman Horn for learning more about our newest center and the impact of early education and STEAM (Science Technology, Engineer, Art and Math) with infants and toddlers," said Sarah Rahhal Sunbeam's chief executive officer. "Sunbeam is a leader in early childhood education, preparing young children in our community to enter kindergarten with the skills necessary to be ready for school."

The foundation for lifelong health, well-being and learning begins long before a child starts kindergarten. Infant mental health refers to the infant and toddler's ability to form close and secure relationships, regulate emotions and behavior and explore the environment and learn, which is grounded in secure, nurturing relationships with parents and important caregivers, such as teachers.

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Studies show a child's verbal and math abilities, prepares them socially to interact with others, teaches them self-regulation skills and supports development to their fullest potential. Children who are not prepared to start school at age five are at risk of never catching up, leaving an achievement gap that can persist until high school. Sunbeam is the Early Head Start grantee in Oklahoma City and is a leader in early childhood education. The nonprofit helps families who might normally have difficulty in accessing high quality early learning and care programs by providing home-based and full-day, full-year center-based services at no cost to the family of the child.

To learn more about Sunbeam's early education centers, including information on enrolling, Call (405) 528-7721 or visit sunbeamfamilyservices.org.

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About Sunbeam Family Services

Founded in 1907, Sunbeam Family Services is one of Oklahoma's longest serving nonprofits. The nonprofit helps children, families and seniors learn, grow and thrive. To learn more, call (405) 528-7721, visit sunbeamfamilyservices.org, or join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.