



Oklahoma Association for Infant Mental Health Fall Conference
 Sarah Rahhal Presented with Povl Toussieng Leadership Award

[Download a photo of Rahhal.](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Oct. 26, 2020

FOR MORE INFO: Carly Harris
 OK-AIMH Administrative Assistant
 405-818-7624
 okaimh@gmail.com

**Sunbeam Family Services CEO Sarah Rahhal Presented with
 Povl Toussieng Memorial Leadership in Infant Mental Health Award
 at OK-AIMH Fall Conference**

Oklahoma City - The Board of Directors of Oklahoma Association for Infant Mental Health (OK-AIMH) today announced that Sarah Rahhal, LCSW, chief executive officer of Sunbeam Family Services, was presented with the Povl Toussieng Memorial Leadership in Infant Mental Health Award virtually at the annual fall conference held on Oct. 21, 2020.

This award honors the legacy of Dr. Toussieng, a founding member of OK-AIMH and whose work with families established a solid foundation for infant mental health in Oklahoma.

“Dr. Toussieng demonstrated and taught prevention and early intervention long before it was generally acknowledged in psychiatric education, and he always showed up in tough times as a true leader does,” said Fran Morris, who worked with Dr. Toussieng and Rahhal through the OU Health Sciences Center and OK Dept. of MH and Substance Abuse Services. “It’s something I’ve always admired about Sarah - she is dependable in the way Povl was. Sarah is leading efforts in community to increase awareness of the importance of the first years of life, to strengthen and empower parents as first teachers for their children to ensure every child has a healthy start and every opportunity to reach their full potential.”

Rahhal is passionate about supporting children and their families.

“What an honor to receive this award as, Dr. Toussieng was an incredible mentor and teacher,” said Rahhal. “I had the privilege of learning from him for a number of years and hope to carry his work forward in supporting infant mental health and early intervention.”

Rahhal is a dedicated leader with extensive knowledge in mental health and child development. She has experience in strategic development and community collaborations. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and is passionate about serving Oklahoma’s children, seniors and families. Rahhal achieved the infant mental health endorsement, worked with families involved in DHS and provided child care consultation. She has presented at a number of conferences at the state and national level. In addition, she is a Trauma Informed Care trainer and a Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) certified therapist.

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Rahhal has a Master of Social Work from the University of Oklahoma and a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from the University of Minnesota. Rahhal was a Journal Record's 2020 Fifty Making a Difference honoree, is a graduate of Leadership Oklahoma Class 30 and received the Ramana Award for outstanding contributions to the mental health of Oklahoma's children in 2015.

For more information about OK-AIMH visit okaimh.org.

The Oklahoma Association for Infant Mental Health is a statewide entity that promotes the development of a qualified workforce to support the healthy social-emotional development of young children and their families. OK-AIMH offers a guide to professional core competencies for excellence in infant and early childhood mental health. Through professional education, workforce development, Endorsement® credentialing, multi-disciplinary collaboration and advocacy for best practices, OK-AIMH advocates a model of relationship-building and bridging services and needs across systems, including the private sector, to better serve very young children, parents, caregivers and the workforce.

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