



## Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Celebrating 65 Years of Service

#### *Paying Tribute to the Vos Family, Founders, in Touching Video*

KITCHENER, ON, September 7, 2021 - We are pleased to announce that Sunbeam is celebrating its **65th Year of Service** this year to the many communities it supports.

Since its beginnings on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 1956 when Pieter and Johanna Vos first welcomed a child with a developmental disability into their family home, through its establishment as a not-for-profit organization in 1966, and to the Sunbeam of today, a robust and diverse community developmental services organization supporting over 14,000 individuals and families across Waterloo Region, Wellington County, Dufferin County, Halton Region and Peel Region, Sunbeam has always remained true to its roots.

To recognize and celebrate Sunbeam's 65th Anniversary, we are pleased to kick things off by sharing a video featuring the founding of Sunbeam by the Vos family of Kitchener. Although the story is known by some in our community, this 15-minute video feature provides a touching look into the heart and soul of the Vos family, and their dedication to serving others. Including some never-before-shared photos and footage from the family's archives, and interviews with several members of the Vos family today, this insightful story of Sunbeam's founding history and development over the years, is one of significant historical importance to our community.

The featured video "*The History of Sunbeam - The Vos Founders*" is now available for viewing at: [www.sunbeamcommunity.ca/65Years](http://www.sunbeamcommunity.ca/65Years)

Over the next few months, we will continue to share more stories, news items and videos via our website and social media channels to celebrate Sunbeam's upcoming 65th Anniversary this fall, and a special day of virtual events and celebrations is planned for our anniversary date, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

***About Sunbeam Community & Developmental Services:***

Sunbeam Community & Developmental Services is a multi-site, multi-faceted organization that provides residential care programs, overnight respite services, day programming, community outreach and other therapeutic amenities and services for individuals living with developmental disabilities. We currently operate 26 residential and respite sites across Waterloo Region, offering essential programs and services to children, youth, adults and older adults, as well as providing supports to their families and communities.

In addition to its Community Living Services programs, the Sunbeam Community offers an extensive suite of professional and support services to individuals and families through the **Sunbeam Developmental Resource Centre (SDRC)** and is also the host agency for **Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) – Central West Region**.

***Our Vision***

Inclusive communities where people of all abilities are valued.

***Our Mission***

Providing innovative opportunities that enable the people we support to reach their goals and achieve recognition of their value in the community

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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To learn more, please visit: [www.sunbeamcommunity.ca](http://www.sunbeamcommunity.ca)