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Contact:

Hannah McKinnon
Lead Communications Coordinator
hannah@calmwaters.org
405-841-4803 ext. 107

Ripples of Hope Raises Over $53,000 for Calm Waters

OKLAHOMA CITY – Calm Waters Center for Children and Families, Oklahoma's largest grief center, raised $53,000 at its annual benefit breakfast, Ripples of Hope, on Tuesday, August 18 at Will Rogers Theatre. The event brought together community and corporate leaders to raise awareness and support for Calm Waters' mission of providing free grief support services to children and families across Oklahoma.

This year's event welcomed an expanded audience and featured nationally recognized speaker and author Sherri Coale as the keynote speaker. Coale, who spent 25 years coaching the University of Oklahoma women's basketball team, shared her perspective on resilience, loss and the importance of having a supportive community during life's most difficult moments.

"Grief can change the course of a person's life, but support can help change that trajectory," said Calm Waters Chief Executive Officer, Trisha Koelsch. "We are incredibly grateful to everyone who joined us for Ripples of Hope and invested in the work of Calm Waters. Their generosity allows us to continue meeting children, adults, and families where they are and ensuring grief support is available regardless of their ability to pay."

Funds raised through Ripples of Hope will directly support Calm Waters' free grief support groups, private counseling services, school-based grief support programs and community grief education. As the need for grief support continues to grow across Oklahoma, these resources help children, adults and families navigate grief following the death of a loved one, divorce or other significant loss.

“I am so grateful to the sponsors, attendees, speakers, volunteers, staff, and donors who made Ripples of Hope possible,” Koelsch said. “Their support will help sustain and expand Calm Waters' services for grieving children, adults, and families throughout Oklahoma.”

To learn more about Calm Waters, its grief support services or how to support its mission, visit **www.calmwaters.org**.

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Calm Waters Center for Children and Families provides grief support services for children, individuals, and families on their grief journey caused by death, divorce or other significant loss. Since beginning in 1992, Calm Waters has impacted more than 94,000 Oklahomans. For more information about Calm Waters and their services, visit calmwaters.org.

Link to photos:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/fpaol9jfheokwcvgx7phl/AMAjEUKec54h74F9Lx80IGM?rlkey=rwy7mguqxkj783rzp9224a002&st=91h6p9wi&dl=0