FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: McKalyn Danner, 405-834-4344 mdanner@positivetomorrows.org



Event photos: Available via Dropbox here

## 20 Families Graduate from Positive Tomorrows Programs

Families have overcome homelessness and instability with support from the nonprofit.

**OKLAHOMA CITY (May 22, 2025)** – Positive Tomorrows, Oklahoma's only private, tuitionfree school and social services agency serving children and families experiencing homelessness, hosted its fourth annual graduation ceremony on Wednesday evening.

The ceremony honored 20 families who have diligently worked to overcome homelessness and maintain stability with the organization's support. These families represent 33 graduating students transitioning into traditional public schools in the fall. A celebratory family cookout followed the event at Positive Tomorrows' Oklahoma City campus.

"As much as we'd love to keep kiddos with us indefinitely, Positive Tomorrows isn't meant to be a family's forever school," President and CEO Margaret Creighton said. "We're intentionally designed as a transition school, meaning students don't stay with us for their entire educational path."

Each spring, teachers and case managers collaborate to determine which families are ready to graduate. The staff looks at the child's academic and social progress, as well as the family's stability in employment, transportation and housing. Once these goals are met, they guide families through the transition process and beyond, working to maintain a safe and consistent connection point for graduating families and past students.

"Success looks different for everyone," says Creighton. "We see the most significant impact among families who stay in our program for one to two years. It's bittersweet when families are ready to leave Positive Tomorrows, but everyone understands that it's something to celebrate."

The supportive relationships built at Positive Tomorrows last long beyond a family's enrollment. In addition to support from the organization's Transition Coordinator, former students are also invited back to attend day camps when schools are out of session, and parents often come back to participate in the peer groups as alumni, reaching back to encourage the next parent.

"Graduation is a momentous occasion that honors the hard work and determination of our families," says Kelly Berger, Director of Family Support. "Time at Positive Tomorrows helps build parents' confidence to remain active and involved participants in the rest of their child's education, thereby setting the stage for long-term success.

Graduates also have the opportunity to join Positive Tomorrows' Parent Advisory Committee which gives current and past parents a direct role in shaping the school's programs and services, ensuring the most relevant needs of the community are addressed.

To learn more and support Positive Tomorrows, visit positivetomorrows.org.

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**About Positive Tomorrows:** Positive Tomorrows is Oklahoma's only private, tuition-free school and social service agency specifically serving children and families experiencing homelessness. More than 150 students receive a quality, trauma-informed education each year while their parents get the support they need to create more stability for their families. Positive Tomorrows is a United Way Partner Agency, an Oklahoma A+ Demonstration School, and an accredited School of Distinction with the Cognia Global Commission. To learn more, visit <u>www.positivetomorrows.org</u>.