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For Immediate Release

KEEPING FOSTER SIBLINGS TOGETHER

Children who find themselves in state custody face new and frightening experiences every day. While being removed from your home, school and community is traumatic enough, siblings have an additional trauma – being torn apart from one another.

Sibling sets of 3 or more have **only a 65% chance** of staying together while in foster care. Children from abuse and neglect situations often have a unique and deep bond with each other. To promote healthy development and some sense of security, every effort must be made to preserve those bonds.

For this reason, Oklahoma United Methodist Circle of Care and its partners developed a plan to **keep siblings together**.

Circle of Care recruits, trains and supports foster parents statewide. The nonprofit faith-based agency is raising \$5 million to build 8 custom **homes for large sibling sets** in foster care. With the support of the Holsinger Estate, one of these homes will be built on the Holsinger Home for Children site in Enid.

The community is invited to a groundbreaking ceremony **Monday, March 19, 2018**, at **12:00 p.m.** at the Holsinger Home for Children, 3316 N. Oakwood Road, Enid. Following the ceremony and a blessing by Bishop Jimmy Nunn, guests will enjoy a light lunch and an open house of the existing Holsinger Home.

Please join us in celebrating the creation of a safe space and the **ending of unnecessary trauma** to foster siblings in Garfield County.

For more information, visit legacy.circleofcare.org. Donations to the project are appreciated and can be sent to Circle of Care, 1501 NW 24th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73106.

Circle of Care's mission is to provide help, healing and hope to children and families in crisis to ensure a safe, healthy and spiritual future.