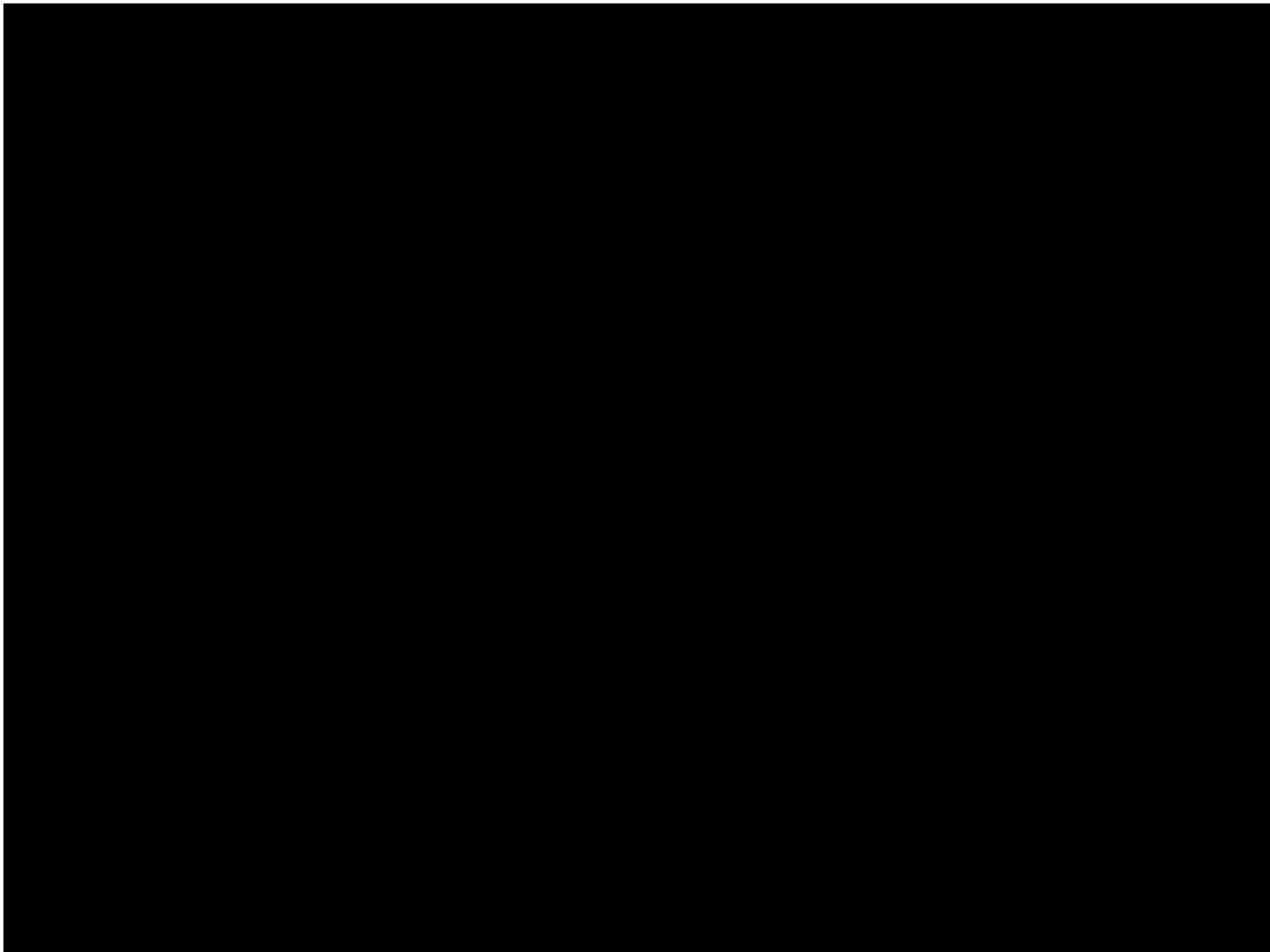


# Washington State Community Action Partnership

Helping People. Changing Lives.





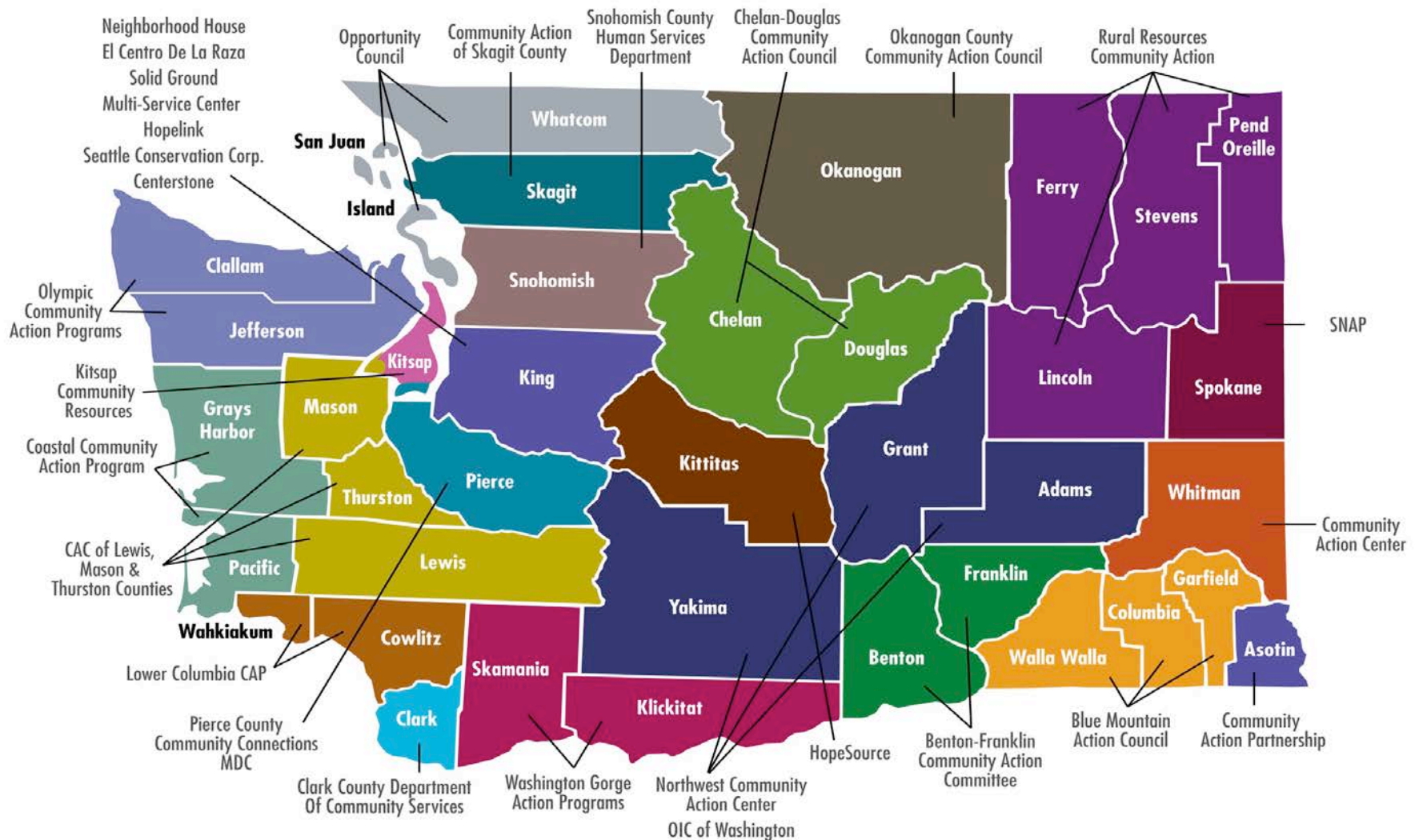
# What is WSCAP

- \* Washington State Community Action Partnership (WSCAP) is an association of 30 Community Action Agencies in WA.
  - \* 26 private non-profits
  - \* 4 public agencies (city and county)
  - \* WSCAP is a 501c3 Non-Profit
  - \* Our primary focus is T&TA of the local agencies & statewide advocacy
- \* A Community Action Agency is designated by receive specific funding through the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

# What is CSBG

- \* Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding originated from the 1964 War on Poverty. This is our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!
- \* **Purpose:** Flexible funding to solve local problems
- \* **Requirements:**
  - \* Tri-Partite Board Structure – includes elected, business/community, and low-income representatives
  - \* Community Needs Assessments – at least once every 3 years
  - \* Develop strategies to increase economic opportunities
  - \* Grass-roots efforts mobilizing the community to end poverty

# Washington Community Action Agencies



# What is a Community Action Agency

- \* A Community Action Agency (CAA or CAP) is an organization with a mission to help people and change lives by alleviating the impact of poverty in its community, with an ultimate goal of ending poverty.
- \* **Characteristic programs include:**
  - \* Housing & Emergency Shelter
  - \* Employment Training / Work Experience
  - \* Financial Literacy/Money Management / Credit Repair
  - \* Education / Literacy / Early Learning
  - \* Energy and Weatherization
  - \* Legal Aid / Advocacy / Info & Referral
  - \* Food Assistance / Health & Nutrition

# What else does Community Action do?

- \* **Innovative & Individual Projects**

- \* **Wind Energy** – creating and selling power to benefit low income families
- \* **Low Income Credit Union** – avoid predatory lending and get high risk consumers re-banked
- \* **Working Wheels** – various car purchasing/repair programs allowing low income people to get to work
- \* **Micro–Enterprise** – helping agencies and families save and start small businesses
- \* **Small Business Incubators** – helping small businesses get off the ground with in-house admin support in the first year
- \* **Sexual Assault Counseling and Legal Assistance for children**
- \* **Dental Clinics** – serve low income families while helping train dental professionals
- \* **School Based Mentoring and Family Outreach** – to support families when the school lacks the resources.

# Who CAPs Help

Clients are typically served at 125% of the Federal Poverty Level

For a family of 4, that means their **gross** income does not exceed \$29,438.

- \* In 2012, Community Action Agencies in WA served:

- \* Over 752,000 individuals
- \* Nearly 300,000 families
- \* Over 209,000 children
- \* 66,000 people with disabilities
- \* Over 72,000 Seniors
- \* 74,917 or 25% of the families served were working and still in poverty.



# Economic Impacts

- \* CAP Agencies are often one of the largest employers in their communities. In 2012:
  - \* Statewide, we employed nearly 4,000 people
  - \* Combined funding was nearly \$355 Million
  - \* Administrative costs were on average under 10%
  - \* CSBG funding was just over \$8 Million (2% overall)
  - \* Every \$1 in CSBG leveraged \$51.18

# Why it Works

- \* **CAPs are innovative**, nimble, and respond to the community creating local solutions like:
  - \* Small Business Incubators
  - \* Low Income Credit Unions
  - \* Working Wheels Transportation programs
  - \* Social Enterprises with Job Training
- \* **CAPs provide support to families:**
  - \* 200+ Certified Family Development Specialists
  - \* Circles Initiatives for Community Engagement

# How can you support Community Action?

- \* Opportunities to get involved
  - \* Volunteer on a local agency Board of Directors
  - \* Volunteer as a financial or business mentor for a family or new agency director
  - \* Donate personally or professionally through:
    - \* Grants
    - \* Furniture / Goods
    - \* Conduct Corporate Food/Clothing/Diaper Drives
    - \* Conduct a Corporate “Take Action” campaign in your community – choose a project or ask a local agency for ideas.



# WHY

## Community Action Matters

so my kids have a safe home



Hopelink

so I could start my own business



Hopelink

so we could purchase our own home



MSC Israel & Lucy 4/21/06 • Ed Streit Images © 2006 • 060421-167

MSC

so I could have a fresh start and a job



Centerstone



so I could build my own home & be secure



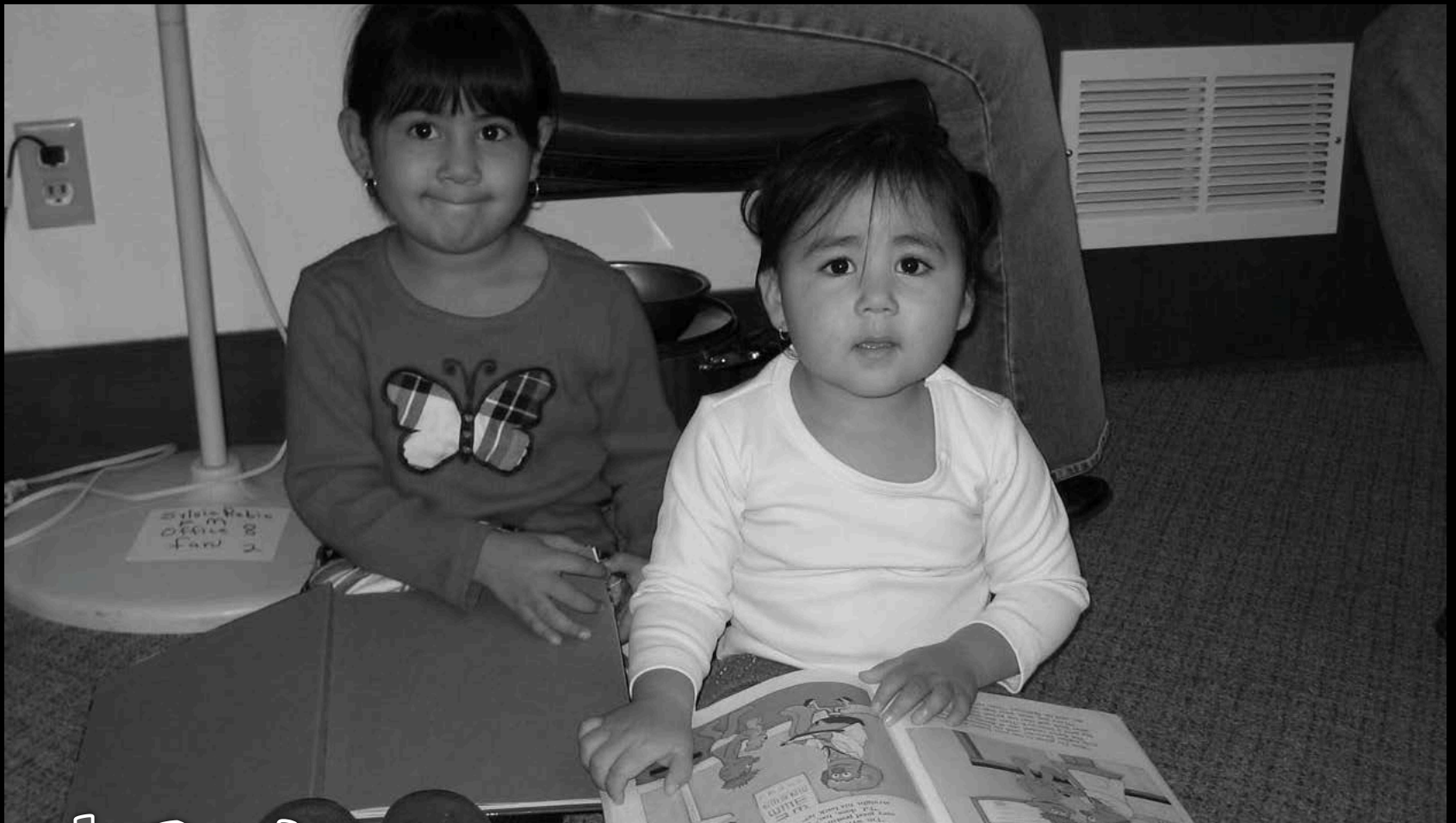
Lower Columbia

so I could be a citizen & join my family



Neighborhood House

so my kids and I can learn to read



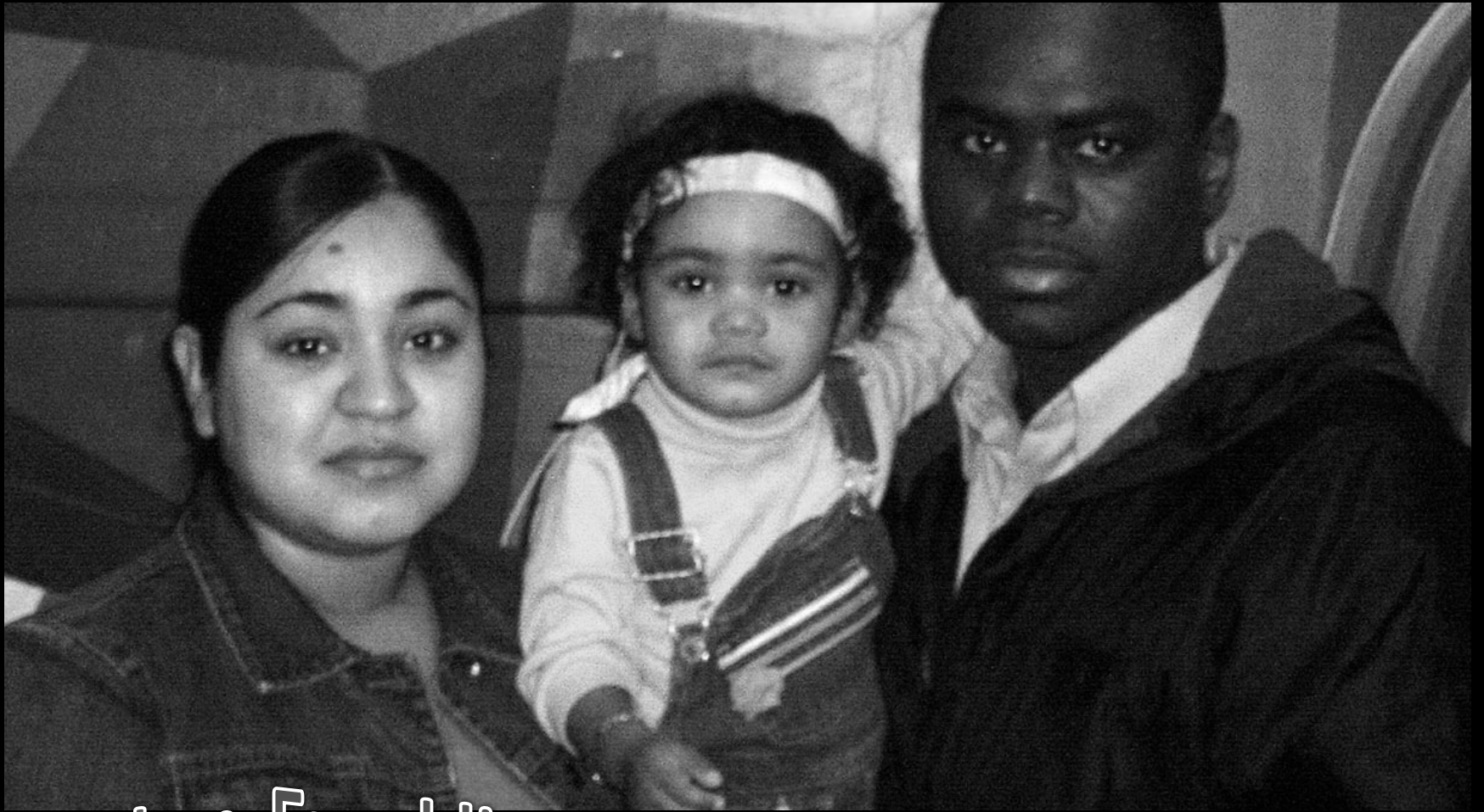
Skagit

so my baby has a chance and a future



Opportunity Council

so my family isn't scared of being homeless



Benton-Franklin

so I can afford heat and medicine



Hopelink

so I could find a job and be successful



Lower Columbia

so I could help make change for others



Solid Ground



so I could care for my sister when our parents died



Skagit

so we won't be hungry



Okanogan

so our family stopped getting hit



Solid Ground

so I have a future



MDC

so we can stay in a safe, warm home



Snohomish

so I had a home when I came  
home



HopeSource

so I could get sober and save my kids



Seattle Conservation Corps

you can make a difference too.



[www.wapartnership.org](http://www.wapartnership.org)