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## Coalition Inspires Action for Racial Equality

Centerstone leads community effort to identify solutions

Centerstone is helping to lead a collaborative coalition and a statewide effort to research the racial inequities for Blacks in Washington State. Through this effort we are engaging with community leaders to launch solutions that will help Blacks overcome these inequities, achieve economic opportunities, and reduce poverty levels in their communities.

Along with Centerstone, the coalition of organizations working together on this project includes the African American Leadership Forum - Seattle, the Washington State Commission on African American Affairs, the Washington State Budget and Policy Center, the Office of Governor Jay Inslee, and the Black Education Strategy Roundtable.

In addition to our advocacy efforts at the state and policy levels, Centerstone continues grassroots efforts for local issues. Recently, CEO Andrea Caupain spoke up on gentrification issues in the Central Area. As new businesses and developers come into the neighborhood and fuel the local economy, we are working in partnership



with the Union Street Business Association on the development project at 23rd and East Union. We are working to prevent potential negative impacts such as the closure of local small businesses and flight of long-time residents. Ultimately, our goal is to embrace change and growth while preserving the core and history of our Central Area community in the midst of these changes.

**Centerstone was founded** fifty years ago during the Civil Rights movement with the support of African American activists motivated to help their neighbors in need. Today, Centerstone's clients include dozens of races and ethnicities including African Americans, Asian Americans, immigrants and refugees. We are excited to continue developing solutions for our neighbors in need!

## About Centerstone

**Our Mission:** Centerstone is dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other as they move from poverty to self-sufficiency through programs and advocacy. We seek to create a healthy, thriving world free of poverty. Our organization values excellence, compassion, responsiveness, innovation, resiliency, and diversity. Centerstone serves a diverse group of low-income families, seniors, refugees and immigrants, and people with disabilities in Seattle through advocacy and programs. We help people of all cultures to meet their needs for food, housing, and financial education. We're committed to ending the cycle of urban poverty by helping move more families towards stability and self-sufficiency. Our programs include:

- **Energy Assistance:** Helps Seattle households with home-heating costs and improving energy conservation.
- **Home Heating Repair Services:** Provides repair and replacement of broken furnaces or windows.
- **Housing Assistance:** Prevents homelessness through eviction prevention and move-in assistance.
- **Food Assistance:** Provides nutritious food four days a week and through our home delivery service.
- **Financial Education:** Provides workshops and coaching to help people learn how to manage their personal finances effectively, stretch their dollars further, and reduce debt.

Learn more at [www.center-stone.org](http://www.center-stone.org)

Contact Us: 722 18th Avenue • Seattle, WA 98122 • (206) 812-4940

## Thank You to Our 2014 Annual Event Sponsors



# The Gala on 4th Avenue Event **Raises Over \$40,000 to Benefit Neighbors in Need**

This year's event was a show-stopper as we celebrated our 50th Anniversary! Community supporters gathered together at the W Hotel Seattle and enjoyed a wonderful evening honoring clients and staff, reflecting on our long legacy in Seattle, and raising funds for our programs and services. With your support, Centerstone raised over \$40,000 through our annual auction. The generosity and contributions of our donors, elected officials, Board of Directors, volunteers, and staff through this event ensures that we continue to help every person live a life of dignity. This means having basic needs met: a warm home, nourishing food, and the support of community.

What a fabulous night! Guests enjoyed a contemporary dinner from the W Hotel, decadent desserts, classic cocktails, and live entertainment provided by the Northwest Gospel Jazz Big Band. Guests enthusiastically bid on both silent and live auction items including a New Orleans jazz getaway, Disneyland vacation, various local adventures, and much, much more. We honored our client advocate, Tiblets Gebreab, with the Team Member of the Year Award for outstanding team spirit and success in living our values. We give you our deepest thanks and appreciation to all who attended, donated, or sponsored the event!



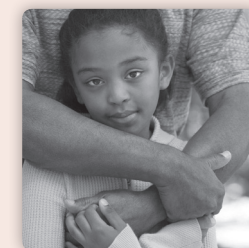
## Kid Korner

**Yummy Lemonade!** We are so grateful to the students, faculty, and staff at Lake Washington Girls Middle School. They volunteer in our food bank throughout the school year, but we were blown away by the girls' commitment to us over the summer! Students harvested and donated fresh fruits and vegetables from their community garden and some students even took time out of their fun in the sun to start a lemonade stand, donating all of their proceeds to the Centerstone Food Bank. Service to their community is not only a part of their curriculum, it's in their hearts too!



**Summer Sack Lunches!** Over 16,000 kids relied on the free and reduced-price school lunch program last year, but when school is out, they may not have enough to eat. This summer we partnered with Groupon to make

sure our Centerstone kids don't go hungry. With your help, we raised \$2,674 to put together nutritious sack lunches which included fruits and vegetables, meals donated from local cafes, and healthy snacks. Thanks to everyone that chipped in for the kids!



"A lot of people don't get it, don't understand, that when your shelter, your food, are taken away you can't succeed at anything. Just those basic needs being met was a blessing, so I could go to work and take care of my kids. Thank you Centerstone."

- David , Centerstone Client

## How Can You Help?

We'd like to invite you to donate items through our Amazon Wish List! By purchasing from our list you help us to provide much-needed items to our Food Bank clients. Examples from our list include:

- Breakfast cereal
- Baby diapers
- Infant formula
- Assorted toiletries

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### Learn about Centerstone Online

- Visit [www.center-stone.org](http://www.center-stone.org)
- View our Annual Report
- Read client stories and the latest news on fighting poverty in Seattle
- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter! [@centerstonesettle](https://www.facebook.com/centerstonesettle)
- Download our Strategic Plan

Contact Us 722 18th Avenue • Seattle, WA 98122 • (206) 812-4940



## Raise a Pint to Support Centerstone

Join us at Reuben's Brews and support Centerstone from 3 - 8 pm on November 6! \$1 from each pint, growler, or set of 3 tasters sold will benefit Centerstone and our programs. We are thankful to Reuben's Brews for their support of Seattle's non-profit community. They have raised more than \$7,000 for organizations like Centerstone since their Thank You Thursday program was launched last May! Reuben's Brews is located in the Ballard neighborhood of Seattle at 1406 NW 53rd Street.

## ▶ Thank You Board Member Dale Morris for 8 Years of Service

