



## You Empower Families to Dream

**Your gift gives families the stability they need to focus on their futures**

Teba was born in Iraq in 2001 and since that time her life has been ruled by instability.

As a child her house was bombed, her family was abused and threatened with death. They escaped Iraq, eventually settling in Everett, Washington through a United Nations refugee program.

Last year, your gifts helped Teba move into Arbora Court, a supportive housing building run by Bellwether Housing, where Wellspring offers full-time case managers on-site to help residents towards stability.

The year since has been a big one for Teba. She's had time to reflect on her life and what she wants to do with it. She is determined to be a teacher.

"I was inspired by my elementary school teacher. When I came to the United States I didn't really know any English and she took care of me the whole time. She came to my house, she tutored me. In summer she would come over even though it was her vacation, she would come over and teach me. Help me with my English."



Throughout the year, Teba has worked with Nefertari, her Wellspring Housing Stability Specialist who offers support to Teba and her family when they need it. Recently Nefertari helped Teba to get a summer job at the University of Washington as a teacher's aide.

"I want to inspire children just like my teacher inspired me. I want to give children the minds of doing more than they can. Even though they don't see that in themselves, because I didn't see that until my teacher gave me the time and gave me the courage to look at myself."

**You gave Teba the freedom to follow her dreams.**

## You Were There For Simona When She Needed Help The Most

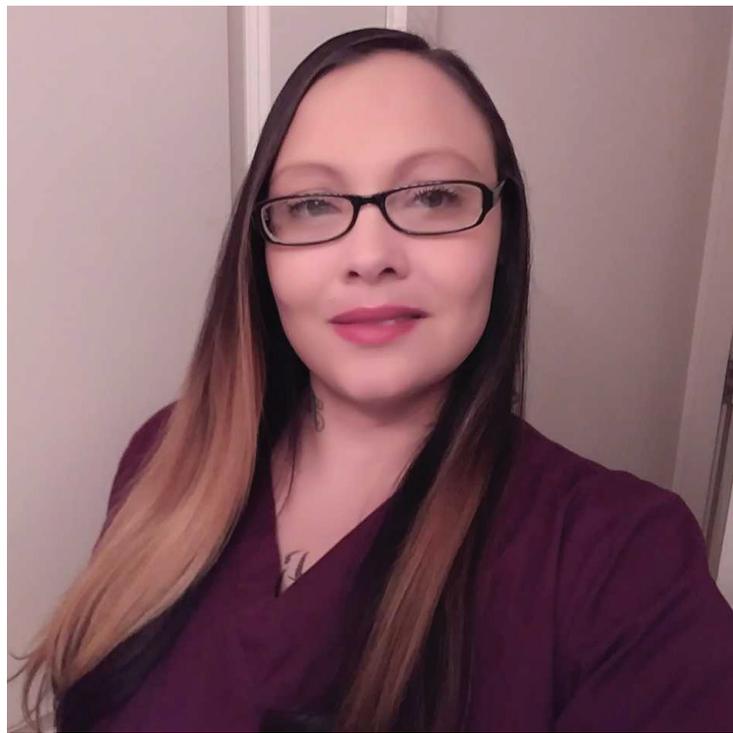
When Simona became pregnant, she was given a choice, she could either get an abortion or move out. Simona chose to move out. Without anybody else to turn to, she instantly became homeless.

Simona soon found herself living in a shelter. Her doctor said she was a high risk pregnancy and wasn't allowed to work.

Heavily pregnant, with no chance of a steady income, and little support network, it seemed unlikely that Simona would find her way out of homelessness.

**Then she was referred to Wellspring.**

“Wellspring were amazing, they helped me pay off some bills that were stopping me from getting into an apartment. They not only helped me with rental assistance, but I was also given help with baby items such as furniture, clothes, and diapers. I felt like my housing specialist was really there to help me succeed.”



**“I’ve been through a lot in my life and with the help of Wellspring I am definitely in a place where I feel safe and secure.”**

You helped Simona graduate from college as a nursing assistant, she has a job waiting for her.

“I have stable housing that my daughter can grow up in. I plan on working and someday soon furthering my education.”

MONDAY MAY 4, 2020

NOON - 1 P.M.

HYATT REGENCY SEATTLE

# Save the Date!

*Lasting Change*  
LUNCHEON 2020



Contact us now at [give@wellspringfs.org](mailto:give@wellspringfs.org) to become a table captain or sponsor

# You Can End Homelessness For Families

Student homelessness is rising in Washington State. **In the 2017-18 academic year more than 40,000 students experienced homelessness.** That's almost twice the amount as ten years ago.

These students and their families are living doubled-up with family and friends, living in motels, or in shelters. Almost 3,000 are unsheltered.

Unsurprisingly, homelessness has a negative effect on academic achievement for these students. As their education suffers, homelessness has a direct negative impact on their futures.

**You know that children thrive on routine.** Homelessness is the opposite. It's chaotic.

Experiencing homelessness makes it hard to find a quiet place to do homework, it makes it even harder to attend school regularly to get homework to begin with. Homelessness makes it impossible to find a good night of sleep and the rest needed to do well in class.

Family members don't fare any better. Parents find it hard to overcome the barriers of



homelessness, to find a new job, new housing, and escape debt.

How can you help?

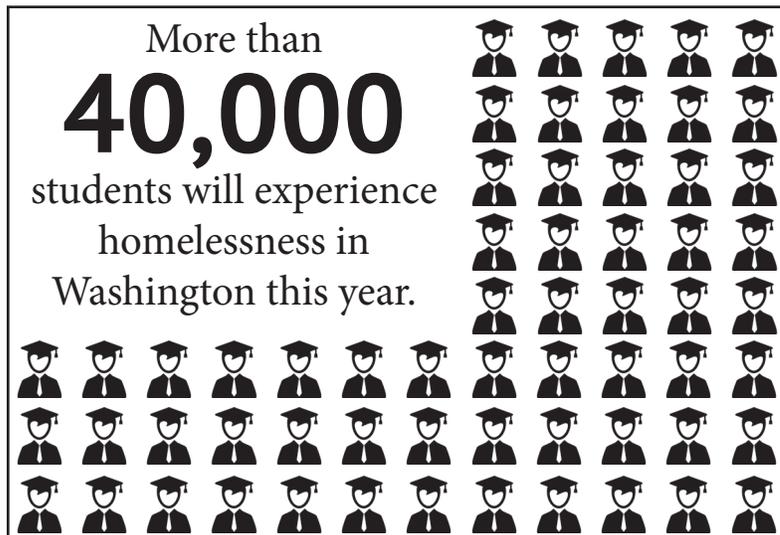
Getting students and their families housed is the first step towards stability. Having a home and family to go back to each day is the first step towards routine.

Once stable, school attendance improves, academic achievement rises, and the future begins to look bright.

**We need your support to end homelessness one family at a time.**

We have students waiting for your gift right now.

**It's up to you.**



Source: Dyer, M. & Ward, J. (2019). UPDATE: Homeless Students Data

## Thank You Uber



This year, Uber is helping our families overcome transportation barriers by providing free rides.

Uber rides are used to get families to crucial appointments, job interviews or meetings with landlords. To help our families maintain stability.

# How Many Degrees of Separation Are There Between You And A Wellspring Family?

It has been famously said that there are six degrees of separation between any two people in the world. But the smaller a community, the less that separates us.

Alex Washburn, a long time Wellspring supporter, decided to raise funds for Wellspring when he found himself unexpectedly connected to one of our families.

Alex's Facebook post describes that connection:

“Sometimes you don't really know the importance of a non-profit until you see its value first hand. The group I'm writing about is Wellspring Family Services. One of our employees had a family member in real trouble. There was a very young child living with young parents who both had chemical, psychological, and unemployment issues.”

“Wellspring stepped in and helped the couple



find jobs, located and paid for an apartment, and provided counseling for both the child and the parents.”

**“I was stunned at how quickly and effectively Wellspring created a solution that both stopped the cycle, but also held the parents accountable and responsible.”**

“As I prepare for climbing Mt Rainier this weekend I'd like to use this event to raise funds for Wellspring.”

Alex's fundraiser was a success and his story reminds us that the connection between all of us is often smaller than we realize.

## Want to start your own online fundraiser?

Host your own fundraiser to end homelessness for families, visit:

**[Give.wellspringfs.org/endhomelessness](https://give.wellspringfs.org/endhomelessness)**

Contact Daniel at [give@wellspringfs.org](mailto:give@wellspringfs.org) or 206-902-4229 for help or more information.



## Ways To Give

- Make a gift in honor of a friend or family member this holiday season.
- Host a fundraiser on your birthday in lieu of receiving gifts.
- Increase your impact with an employer matching gift.

Visit [give.wellspringfs.org/endhomelessness](https://give.wellspringfs.org/endhomelessness) to give today.