

“Raise Me Up” shows how people can get involved to help local children

Oregon has set ambitious goals to safely reduce the number of children in foster care and to ensure that children in the child welfare system are safe, stable and healthy. We need all of Oregon to work with us to achieve our goals, and we are reaching out to adults across the state to get involved in helping create a better future for our children:

- Reduce the number of children entering foster care
- Eliminate disproportionate treatment for children of color in foster care, especially African American and Native American children
- Increase the number of children who remain safely at home after a founded report of neglect
- Increase the number of children leaving foster care – either to reunite with parents or to be adopted/have permanent guardianship arrangements
- Increase placements and connections with family & relatives and ensuring ongoing connections with parents and siblings
- Decrease the length of time children spend in foster care
- Strengthen support for foster families
- Ensure that children in foster care receive timely, appropriate medical services and mental health assessments
- Make Oregon a national leader for the absence of abuse in out-of-home care
- Increase the number of foster care homes/placements available

>> Oregon is making progress toward all these goals; however, we are still missing the opportunity to speak directly to our communities and engage them as full partners in our work.

The Raise Me Up campaign will allow us to build local partnerships and grassroots support and help us change the child welfare conversation from CRISIS to engagement and improvement.

We will begin with a TV campaign (funded by Casey Family Programs), and then move to a social media campaign of e-mail and Facebook.

Preview the TV spots at www.raisemeup.oregon.gov

The Call to Action: “You don’t have to raise a child to raise them up. You just have to raise your hand and say you’ll help.”

>> Begins in January – moves to social media in March/April

- Letters to partners
- Build the online partner resources (by county) to increase options
- Sponsor for TV & print media
- Video “storycorps” for real stories (Facebook, YouTube)
- Local success stories to post/pitch

Statewide opportunities

Raise Your Hand and Say You'll Help Oregon's Children

Whether you are willing to open your home and heart to a foster child or have only have a few hours to spare, you can give an Oregon child a better future.

Raise Me Up is a call to action to improve – and ultimately prevent the need for – foster care. Together, the Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Commission on Children and Families, the Oregon Judicial Department and Casey Family Programs are calling on you to help Oregon's most vulnerable children.

"Children are in foster care because they can't be safe at home. Because of the trauma they have experienced in their lives, these children need love, stability and hope," said Erinn Kelley-Siel, director of the Children, Adults and Families Division of DHS. "Every day, child welfare workers dedicate themselves to serving children who have experienced unimaginable difficulties. But to truly raise these children up, and reduce the need for foster care in the first place, we need your help."

"Our community services are vital to the needs of the most vulnerable kids in Oregon, and volunteers are crucial providers of care and support," said Mickey Lansing, executive director of the Oregon Commission on Children and Families.

As the campaign says: "You don't have to raise a child to raise him up. You just have to raise your hand and say you'll help."

Below are links to state agencies and community organizations, including some faith-based groups, which serve children in foster care or work to keep children out of foster care and safely in their homes. Don't wait. Contact or volunteer with one of these groups today.

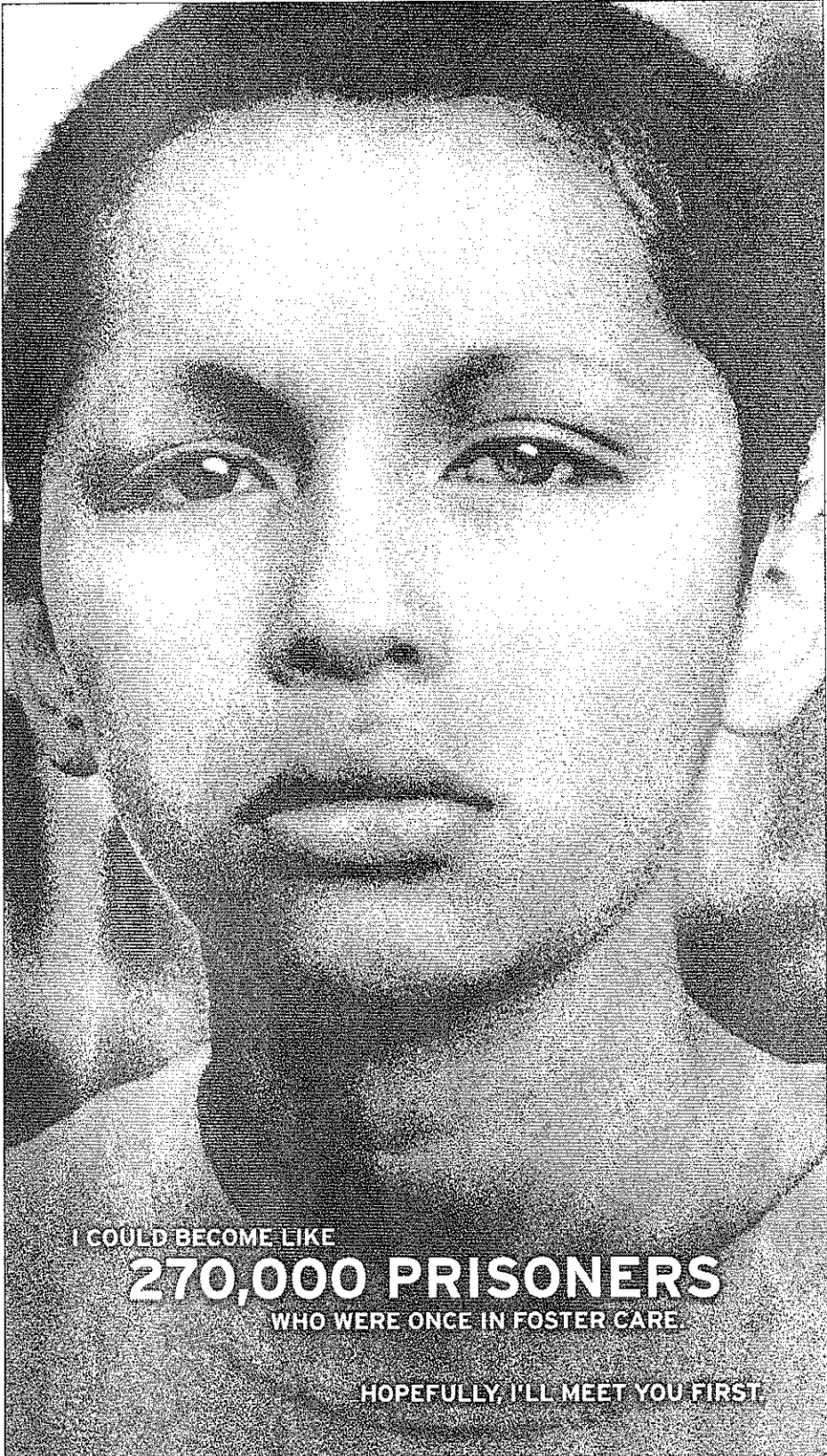
- [Adopt a child](#)
- [Become a foster parent](#)
- [Become a Court-Appointed Special Advocate](#)
- [Become a Foster Care Review Board member](#)
- [Join Big Brothers or Big Sisters \(PDF\)](#)
- [Mentor a child](#)
- [Volunteer through DHS](#), provide transportation for children, respite for foster parents, mentoring for children and other services
- [Volunteer through your local school district](#). Many Oregon school districts rely on volunteers from all walks of life to offer time, energy and experience to out students and assist teachers.
- Advocate for children through [Children First for Oregon](#).
- [Learn how Oregon's Relief Nurseries support children and families](#)
 - [Support the Relief Nursery in your community \(PDF\)](#)



Homeless

Prisoner

PTSD



I COULD BECOME LIKE
270,000 PRISONERS
 WHO WERE ONCE IN FOSTER CARE.

HOPEFULLY, I'LL MEET YOU FIRST.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO RAISE A FOSTER CHILD TO RAISE THEM UP.
 JUST RAISE YOUR HAND AND SAY YOU'LL HELP.

Go to raiseup.oregon.gov to find out how.



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE OREGON DEPARTMENT
 OF HUMAN SERVICES, COMMISSION ON
 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AND JUVENILE COURT
 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



RAISEMEUP

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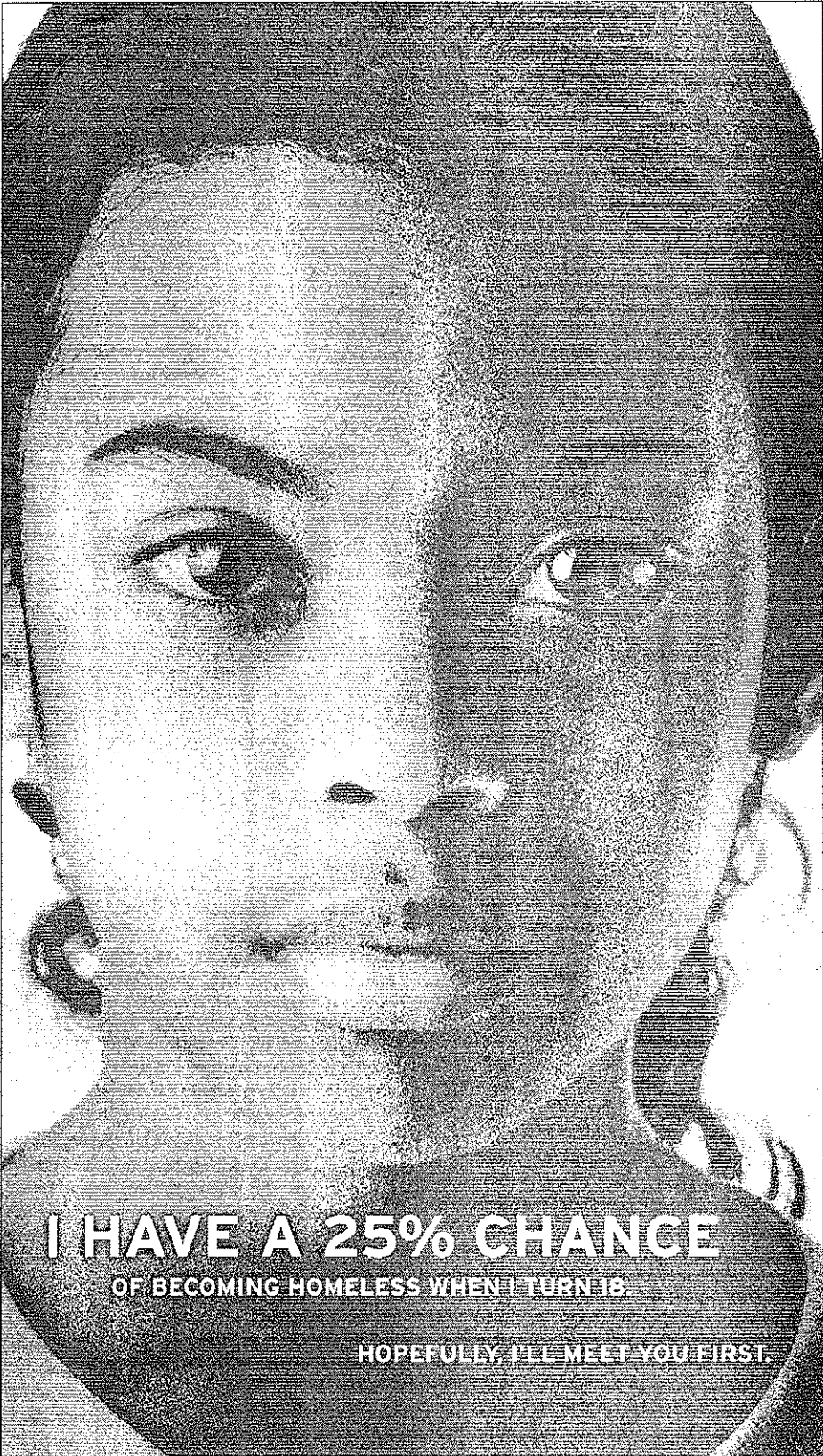
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**I HAVE A 25% CHANCE
OF BECOMING HOMELESS WHEN I TURN 18.**

HOPEFULLY, I'LL MEET YOU FIRST.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO RAISE A FOSTER CHILD TO RAISE THEM UP.
JUST RAISE YOUR HAND AND SAY YOU'LL HELP.

Go to raiseup.oregon.gov to find out how.



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RAISEMEUP

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I AM **TWICE** AS LIKELY TO HAVE POST-TRAUMATIC
STRESS DISORDER AS VETERANS OF THE GULF WAR.

BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO RAISE A FOSTER CHILD TO RAISE THEM UP.
JUST RAISE YOUR HAND AND SAY YOU'LL HELP.

Go to raisemeup.oregon.gov to find out how.



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