Photo description: This 1936 “security map,” created by the government-funded Home Owners’ Loan Corporation (HOLC), shows color-coded grades for various parts of Seattle, which ranged from A (“best” in green) to D (“hazardous” in red). Accompanying “area descriptions” demonstrate how race was integral to the appraisals with D rated areas like Central District described as “the Negro area of Seattle” while A-rated areas like Montlake are described as being “populated by white-collar workers and professional people.” National Archives, Seattle Public Library online collections.
The Jackson Street Community Council serves as an early model of interethnic community activism. Formed in 1946, it worked to support neighborhood businesses and community organizations along Jackson Street, which spanned the Chinatown-International District and Central District. Far right: Tony Allasina, principal of Bailey Gatzert School. Second from left: Yoshito Fujii. Second from right, standing: Lew Kay. Wing Luke Museum Collection

Photo description: (Left) Councilmember Wing Luke unsuccessfully advocated for an emergency clause to put an Open Housing law into immediate effect in October 1963. The weaker ordinance was put to Seattle voters in March 1964. Voters overwhelming turned down the ordinance by a vote of 115,627 to 54,448. Wing Luke Museum Collection  
(Right) Seattle Times, March 8, 1964.
The Seattle Chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) continued community advocacy and protests to end housing discrimination in Seattle. They held pickets and sit-ins at local real estate offices such as this one on May 10, 1964 at Picture Floor Plans, Inc. Seattle Municipal Archives

Together, as the Gang of Four, Roberto Maestas, Bernie Whitebear, Bob Santos and Larry Gossett demonstrated the power and impact of friendships and community organizing across diverse racial communities in Seattle’s struggle to fight for civil rights and social change in the ‘60s, ‘70s and ‘80s. Bringing together the Latino, Native, Asian and African American communities, they united over issues ranging from housing development to poverty to fishing rights to gentrification. Wing Luke Museum.