DFW Advocacy Chapter with RESULTS

October Webinar: COVID & Candidates

Oct. 20 & 21, 2020
Welcome New Advocates

• Partnership between DFW and RESULTS
• Welcome those who are new to the chapter
• No advocacy experience required, but it does require us venturing **outside our comfort zone** to make a difference.

Let’s do this together!
Zoom Instructions

• We want to hear from you, but please stay muted unless speaking. To unmute, click the microphone icon, dial *6 on the phone, or raise your hand so we can unmute you.

• Also share comments and/or questions using the “Chat” icon.
New Mission & Vision

DFW’s NEW MISSION

Dining for Women cultivates the collective power of community to achieve global gender equality.

DFW’s OUR NEW VISION

Dining for Women envisions a world where every person has the same opportunities to thrive regardless of their gender or where they live.
Getting Connected

Ice Breaker

1. **Share one word in the chat** describing how you are feeling about the world right now? Share one word about how you feel about 2021.

2. **Share anything you’re proud of accomplishing** with the group or with your own advocacy.
Goals for Today

• Review where we are on the COVID-19 relief efforts, success of our advocacy, actions

• Learn how to engage congressional candidates to jumpstart relationship building for the new Congress

• Help us improve our advocacy efforts
What are We Trying to Do as Advocates?

We work in a non-partisan way to influence our decision makers in Congress, guiding them toward solutions that will positively impact the lives of women, girls, and children living in poverty.
What are We Trying to Do as Advocates?

Assess where our members of Congress are on the Champion Scale, then move them up

4  Champion
3  Leader
2  Advocate
1  Supporter
0  Uninformed or Neutral
-1  Opponent
2020 Campaigns

Improve maternal health and child survival:

1. Ensure the US is funding maternal & child health, child vaccinations, and child nutrition at robust levels for FY21 (In progress—unclear what will happen)
2. Ensure the US pledges to fund Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance’s 5-year work plan (Complete—successful!!)
3. **COVID-19 RESPONSE: ADDED & in progress**
4. Ensure that US and world leaders make serious commitments to end child malnutrition (pushed to 2021)
Why is DFW working on Covid?

• The situation for women, girls, children is urgent.
• “Around 435 million women and girls will be living on less than $1.90 a day by 2021, including 47 million pushed into poverty as a result of COVID-19, according to the new U.N. findings...Unless Congress acts, progress could be set back 10-20 years on AIDS, TB, malaria, vaccinations, maternal and child deaths, etc.”

--Article: Pandemic is widening poverty gap between women and men, new UN findings show, 9/2/20
Why is DFW working on Covid?

- NY Times Article, 9/11/20: “The Other Way Covid Will Kill: Hunger. Worldwide, the population facing life-threatening levels of food insecurity is expected to double, to more than a quarter of a billion people.”

- “We hear our children screaming in hunger, but there is nothing that we can do,” said Ms. Bibi, speaking in Pashto by telephone from a hospital in the capital city of Kabul, where her 6-year-old daughter was being treated for severe malnutrition. “That is not just our situation, but the reality for most of the families where we live.”
Why is DFW working on Covid?

“In only half a year, the coronavirus pandemic has wiped out decades of global development in everything from health to the economy. Progress has not only stopped, but has regressed in areas like getting people out of poverty and improving conditions for women and children around the world, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation finds in its 2020 Goalkeepers report published Monday...‘In other words, we’ve been set back about 25 years in about 25 weeks,’ the report says. ‘What the world does in the next months matters a great deal.’

--Politico: 25 years wiped out in 25 weeks: Pandemic sets the world back decades. 9/14/20
Why is DFW working on Covid?

“These newly impoverished people are likely to be more women who work mostly in informal jobs in low- and middle-income countries. And the coronavirus's bad news for women doesn’t stop there.

“Indirectly, COVID will cause more women than men to suffer and die, in large part because the pandemic has disrupted health care before, during, and immediately after childbirth,” the report says. Newborns are at risk too, as more infants are likely to die when health systems falter — as is happening now around the world.”

--Politico: 25 years wiped out in 25 weeks: Pandemic sets the world back decades. 9/14/20
At the Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland and the Commission on the Status of Women in New York in both 2018 and 2019, Global Fund for Widows delivered an insightful intervention in its continuing exposure of the institutionalized and systemic violations of human rights endured by widows across the globe and the direct link of widowhood to poverty. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres received GFW’s intervention, acknowledged the importance of sustaining widows and PLEDGED his support to widows and the issue of widowhood globally.

Global Fund for Widows - Kenya
DFW October Grantee

Our DFW Grantees are Advocates too!
According to a new analysis commissioned by UN Women and UNDP, by 2021 around 435 million women and girls will be living on less than $1.90 a day — including 47 million pushed into poverty as a result of COVID-19.

Gender poverty gaps will worsen as a result of the crisis. In 2021, it is expected there will be 118 women in poverty for every 100 poor men globally, and this ratio could rise to 121 poor women for every 100 poor men by 2030.

Without gender-responsive policies, the crisis risks derailing hard-won gains.

Where Are Things Now?

• Government is funded through Dec. 11
• No agreement between House, Senate, Administration on COVID-19 supplemental bill
• Passage of HEROES Act 2.0 in the House that includes $10 billion for international development assistance
• End of 116th Congress is coming
## Advocacy Works

### HEROES 1.0: $3.4 Trillion vs. HEROES 2.0: $2.2 Trillion

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<tr>
<th>What we were advocating for</th>
<th>What is in HEROES 2.0</th>
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<tr>
<td>• $20 billion for development assistance</td>
<td>• $10 billion for development assistance</td>
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<td>• $4 billion Gavi, the Vaccines Alliance</td>
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<td>• $4 billion for the Global Fund</td>
<td>• $3.5 billion for the Global Fund</td>
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<td>• $2 billion for hunger/famine relief</td>
<td>• $750 million for World Food Program</td>
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- **HEROES 1.0:**
  - $0 development assistance

- **HEROES 2.0:**
  - $10 billion development assistance
What got us here?

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<th>HEROES 1.0: $3.4 Trillion</th>
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- Focus on the COVID supplemental
- Persistence action taking
- Deepening relationships with Congress
Possible Outcomes on COVID Bill

- Miracle: Agreement happens before election
- Supplemental passes after elections—highly dependent on outcome of elections
- Supplemental passes in January

Bottom Line: We need a bill to pass. Sooner is better.
Taking Action

1. Contact your members of Congress on a COVID bill
2. Get published on the need for a COVID bill with a global response. Ideas for hooks?
3. Reach out to candidates
Why advocate around the election?

• Establish early relationships
• Inform/educate candidates
• Educate the public
• Set the agenda for next Congress
• Talk to them when they are interested
### COMPETITIVE RACES

*Italicized name denotes Freshman member*

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Direct Advocacy: Public events, group meetings, one-on-one interactions

- Set up a meeting with your group
- Town halls (virtual or in-person)
- Meet and greets and fundraisers
- Working for the campaign
- Candidate calls to voters
Creating Direct Advocacy Opportunities: Find Events, Set Up a Meeting

- Check website & contact campaign office or party headquarters for a meeting and/or ask when you can hear candidates speak.
- **Sign up for campaign updates** on their campaign page. Campaign pages are separate from official government websites.
- Follow candidates and local political parties on Twitter and Facebook
- Donate to a campaign
- Visit [www.townhallproject.com](http://www.townhallproject.com) (mainly current members of Congress)
- Research their positions on the issues.
Preparing to Engage – What to say

• Identify the issue(s) you want to highlight
• Research candidate positions on the issues
  o Campaign website, public statements, third-party ex. League of Women Voters
• Draft your question(s) – keep brief; use EPIC format
  o **ENGAGE** the listener in your conversation
  o Identify the **PROBLEM** you want solved
  o **INFORM** them of the solution (tell a story)
  o Provide a detailed **CALL TO ACTION** (Yes/No question)
• Coordinate with others to participate
  o Increases chances of personal encounter with candidate
• **Practice, practice, practice**
Online Town Hall & Meet and Greet Tips

- **Recruit others** to participate and coordinate on questions you’ll ask.
- **Arrive early to online event** so you don’t miss any instructions.
- **Listen carefully to for how to ask questions.**
  - If they are taking live questions, get in the queue as early as possible.
  - If they are only taking written questions, submit them early.
- **If using video, don’t wear anything political**
- **When called on, ask your question in a succinct, informative way**
- **Follow-up** with campaign staff
  - Provide more details of issue and any materials.
  - If you don’t get a question asked, ask staffer to speak to candidate and then follow-up about the response.
Prepare to Ask Questions & Listen: Group Meeting

- Similar to a meeting with a MoC.
- Engage other organizations if it helps set the meeting.
- Let them know who you are, who you represent in the community, history of the group, recent successes.
- Prepare laser talks and questions related to RESULTS issues.
- Listen and offer to provide more information on our issues.
- Let them know you want to work with them in the future.
- Take photo.
Sample EPIC Laser Talk: Global Poverty

**Engage:** A recent poll by the ONE Campaign confirms my sentiments that the US must also have a global response to this global pandemic. According to the poll, “nearly all voters say it is important for the U.S. to lead the world in responding (85%), preventing (86%), and detecting (85%) global infectious diseases.”

**Problem:** Projections are that, because of COVID-19, hard fought global health progress could be set back 10-20 years and millions of children and adults could die from lack of healthcare, malnutrition, and disease without additional resources.

**Inform:** But sustaining and increasing U.S. support to existing global health programs like Gavi, the Global Fund, and PEPFAR, as well as investing in food aid and nutrition, will make a difference now and in the longer-term.

**Call to Action:** US leadership has contributed to major advances on global health and poverty over the years. What role do you think the US should play in addressing global poverty and global health? And what will you do about these issues once elected?
Working for Campaign or Candidate Calls

• Always have your question(s) ready to go
  o Take advantage of your opportunities when they come

• Be polite and friendly
  o Make sure you have a specific ask (could be policy position)

• Plan to follow up as needed
  o Check in on request, provide additional info, materials,

• Talk to others about the issues you care about
  o Good way to get others interested in your issues
Direct Advocacy

Questions?
Important Dates

• Nov. 17 at 7 pm ET & Nov. 18 at 10 pm ET: DFW Advocacy Chapter with RESULTS

• Survey coming your way

• DFW Virtual Chapter Meetings. Find more info. here: https://diningforwomen.org/virtual-meetings/