



# DFW Advocacy Chapter with RESULTS

## November Webinar: COVID & Beyond

November 17 & 18, 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 or two sentences:** How do you feel about what you and DFW have done through advocacy in 2020?
- 2. Share one or two sentences:** What should this group strive for in 2021?

# Goals for Today



- Review some of DFW outputs for 2020 and possibilities for 2021
- Prepare to take top action. We have lost time on poverty due to government. We must continue to insist on action.
- Review First 100 Days opportunity. Time for DFW to shine brightly.



## 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

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—looking positive with recent Senate bill)
2. Ensure the US pledges to fund Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance's 5-year work plan (Complete—successful!!)
3. **Global 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?

- COVID-19 is increasing the risk of child marriage as a response to school closures, growing risks of violence, adolescent pregnancy, and food and economic insecurity. Estimates suggest that for the first time in almost 30 years, girls are more, not less at risk of child marriage.
- An estimated 90–117 million more children will fall into poverty in 2020.
- Since programs addressing FGM are often interactive and communal, many have been disrupted by the pandemic. [UNFPA estimates](#) that this will lead to 2 million cases of FGM that would otherwise have been avoided.

# Why is DFW working on Covid?

- It is estimated that if the average COVID-19 lockdown period reaches six months, 47 million women and girls will lose access to modern contraception, resulting in an additional 7 million unintended pregnancies. Many of these will be high-risk pregnancies among adolescent girls, particularly as COVID-19 lockdown measures and redirected funds reduce access to sexual and reproductive health services

# Why is DFW working on Covid?

- It is estimated that hunger and malnutrition will double globally.
- Malnourished girls are 15% more likely to give birth to malnourished babies than well-nourished adult mothers, and more likely to have babies born with disabilities.

# Why is DFW working on Covid?

- School closures paired with disrupted access to reproductive health services, particularly in rural and low-income areas, will lead to higher rates of unplanned pregnancies.
- As a result of the COVID-19 crisis, Save the Children estimates that the number of girls at risk of child marriage could increase by up to 2.5 million.
- Save the Children estimates that more than 1 million girls will face risk of adolescent pregnancy as a result of the economic impacts of COVID-19 expected in 2020.



# 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



# Dining For Women November Grantees

Featured Grantee: Resolve Network  
Democratic Republic of the Congo



"Women are strong. I am strong. I am recovering from war. I am building my business with my own hands. I will succeed. People call me 'Mama Resolve' since I named my daughter Resolve for this change in my life."

~Mama Resolve

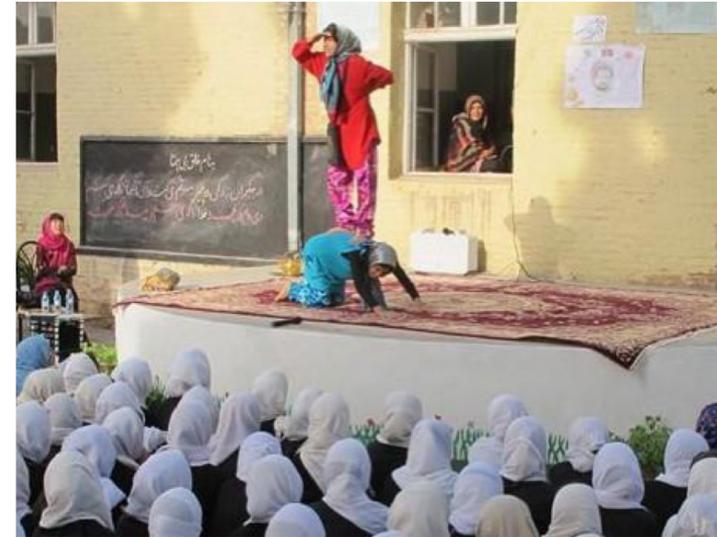
2013 remark by Defense Secretary James Mattis while commander of US Central Command: **"If you don't fully fund the State Department, then I need to buy more ammunition."**

In 2017, 120 retired generals and admirals signed a letter stating: **"The State Department, USAID, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Peace Corps and other development agencies are critical to preventing conflict and reducing the need to put our men and women in uniform in harm's way,"**

<https://www.cnn.com/2017/02/27/politics/generals-letter-state-department-budget-cuts/index.html>



Sustained Grantee: Afghanistan  
Bond Street Theatre



If you recall from our August meeting, BST had put their project on hold, not just because of COVID, but because of renewed violence from the Taliban.



## **Project Concern International**

In July, we heard from Mabel and Salvador with PCI about the current situation in Guatemala. Emergency Food Security Program called Animo (which means security in Spanish) has been refunded.

This is thanks to previous work pushing Congress and the Administration to fully fund foreign aid!

# Where Are Things Now?

- Government is funded through Dec. 11, so needs to pass bills to keep government funded beyond that
- Little happening between House, Senate, Administration on COVID-19 supplemental bill
- Senate FY21 SFOPS bill looks okay for normal year, but no supplemental funding
- House HEROES Act 2.0 includes \$10 billion for development assistance as does FY21 SFOPS bill

# Taking Action

1. Leverage our media and contact your members of Congress, calling on them to speak to leadership about passing a COVID relief bill that includes a global response now.
2. Senators are key. If we can get 5-6 Republican senators to speak to McConnell, it could make a difference. But all senators need to hear from us.

# Taking Action

1. Review how to find our members of Congress and staff names.
2. Review how to form email addresses:
  - House: `firstname.lastname@mail.house.gov`
  - Senate:  
`firstname_lastname@SenatorLastName.senate.gov`

# Direct Advocacy



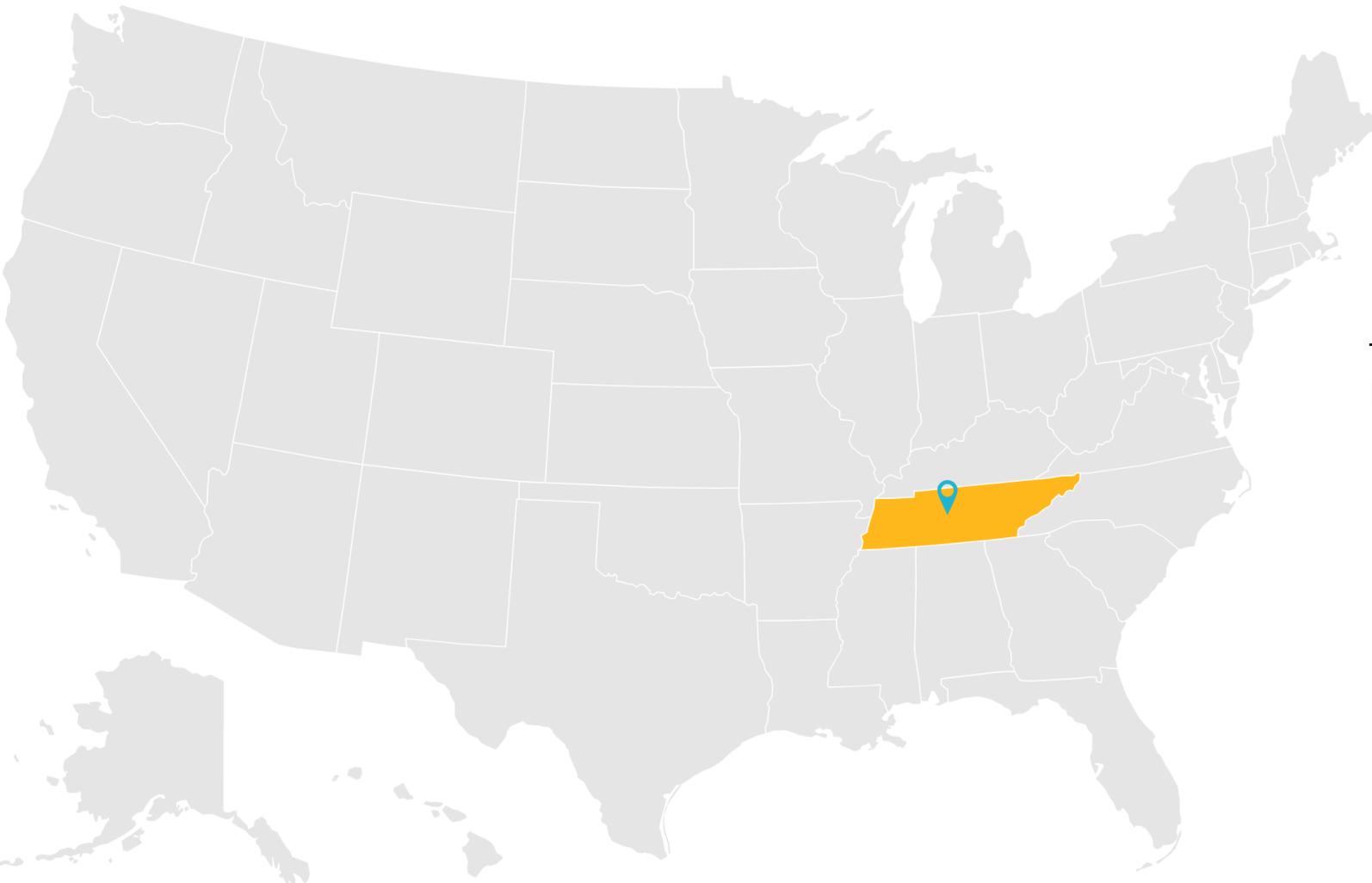
# Questions?

**First**  
**100** **Days**  
**results**

# Looking Ahead: First 100 Days Goals



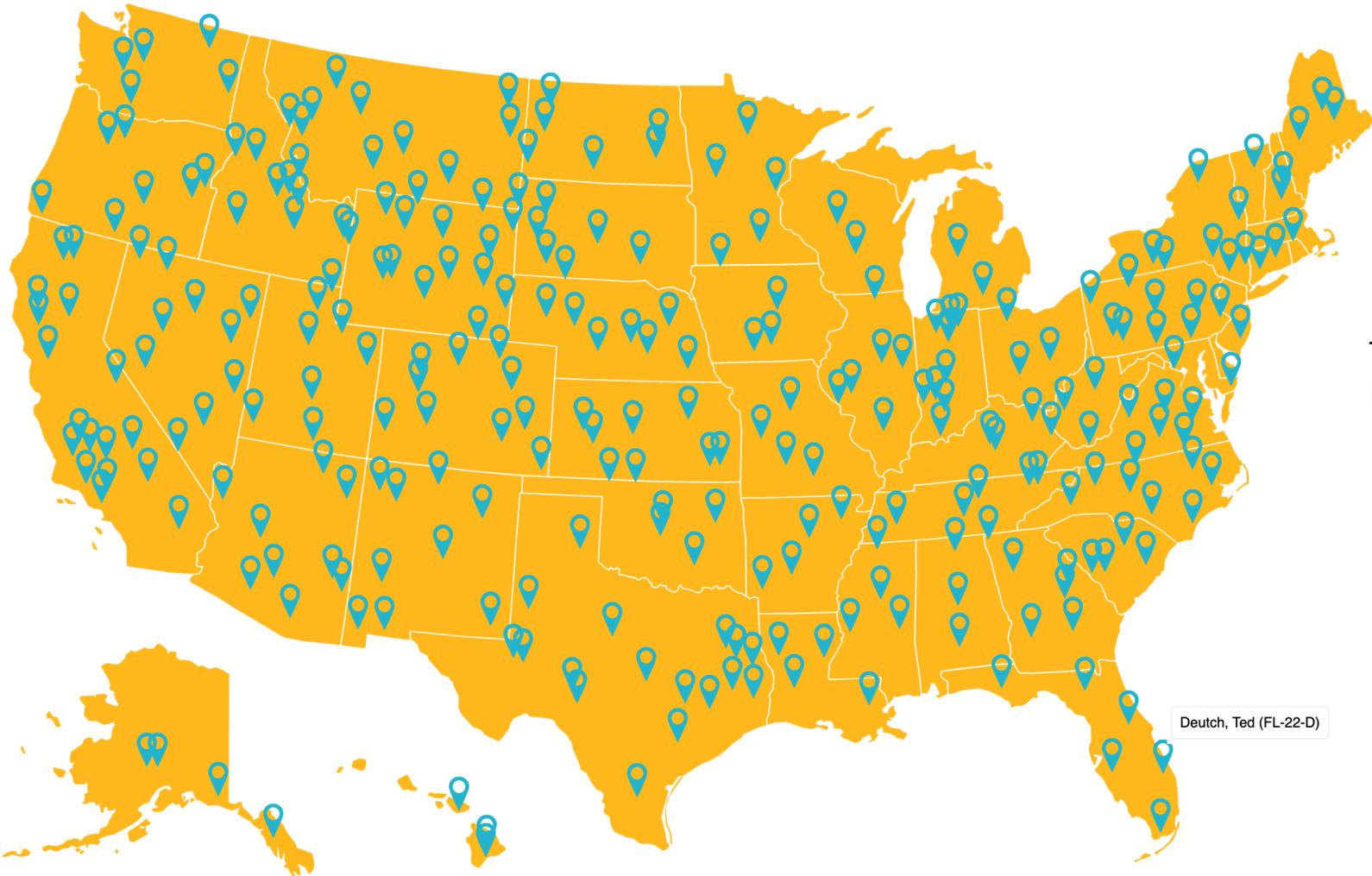
1. Meet with all 100 Senate offices by May 1
2. Meet with 3/4 of the House offices by May 1



Total Meetings: **1**

- Democrat
- Republican
- House
- Senate
- Staff
- Representative

RESET



Total Meetings: **301**

- Democrat
- Republican
- House
- Senate
- Staff
- Representative

Deutch, Ted (FL-22-D)

RESET

# Looking Ahead: First 100 Days Campaign



- December: Group & Individual Planning
- Through January: Growing the Movement
- February: Kick-off Event on Saturday, February 6

# February 6 First 100 Days Kickoff Virtual Event



Register and get info on the campaign:

[results.org/first100days](https://results.org/first100days)



# Outputs from this year



- At least 20 LTEs published in 2020
- At least 12 DFW advocates took part in at least 38 congressional meetings during the RESULTS IC. Those meetings mobilized 12 reps. and 3 senators to sign letters on a global COVID response
- At least 35 DFW advocates have taken multiple online actions with 28 senators and 25 Representatives.
- A similar number have made direct contact with congressional offices, developing relationships and influence with those offices.
- Currently, 119 DFW Advocates have the potential to influence at least 72 Representatives, 56 senators



# What's possible for next year



119 Advocates	2020	2021 @ 50%	2021 @ 100%
Letters to the Editor	20	60	119
Meetings & relationships with senators and reps.	38	35 Reps 28 Senators	72 Reps 56 Senators
Advocates taking Online Actions	35	60	119

What if we grow?

# Important Dates



- Dec. 15 at 7 pm ET & Dec. 16 at 10 pm ET: DFW Advocacy Chapter with RESULTS
- Please answer DFW advocacy survey your received
- DFW Virtual Chapter Meetings. Find more info. here: <https://diningforwomen.org/virtual-meetings/>