



**RESULTS**  
the power to end poverty

**Welcome to the RESULTS August 2013  
U.S. Poverty National Conference Call**

***Making the Most of the August Recess***

**Saturday, August 10, 12:30 pm ET  
(888) 409-6709**

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Making the Most of the August Recess

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# Welcome from RESULTS Executive Director Joanne Carter



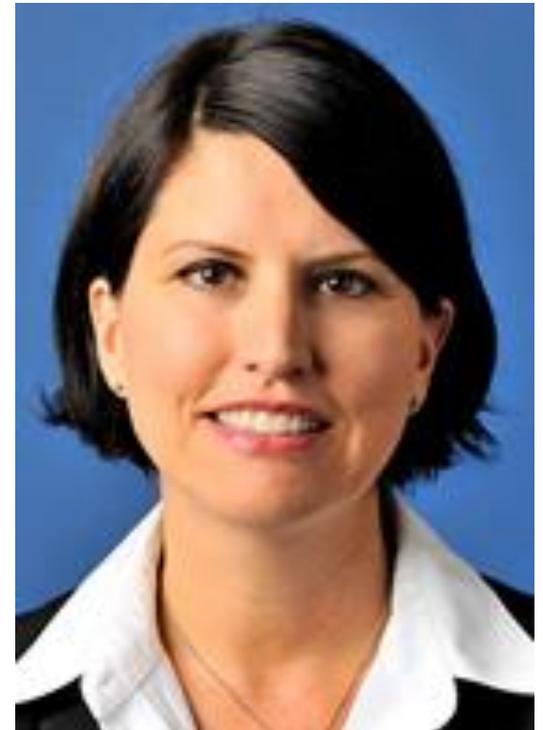
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## Making the Most of the August Recess



### Guest Speaker: Roberta Downing

- Senior Legislative Associate at the [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#)
- Focuses on domestic policy issues including health care, food assistance, income maintenance (TANF), climate change, and related issues
- Worked for Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) on healthcare and Social Security issues
- Congressional Fellow in the health policy office of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee
- Ph.D. in social psychology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Postdoctoral Fellow at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health



## New Threats to SNAP

- House now proposing **\$40 billion in cuts** to the [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#) (SNAP, formerly food stamps)
  - Previous \$20.5 billion in cuts from House Farm Bill + \$20 billion more (over 10 yrs)
- New cuts allows states **force unemployed 18-50 year olds with no children off SNAP after 3 months**, even in states with high unemployment
  - Would **force 2-4 million more people off SNAP** on top of the 2 million forced off under the original House Farm Bill cuts
  - **People deepest in poverty** – earn about \$2,500 per year; 40 percent are women, one-third are over age 40
  - See state-by-state impact: <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=4001>
- Bill would also **encourage states to terminate SNAP benefits** for any recipients who cannot meet harsh new work requirements
  - States can keep half of the federal savings and use the money for anything
- Reps. DeLauro and McGovern have a [sign-on letter](#) urging Congress to protect SNAP – hoping to get all Ds and possibly a few Rs to sign on

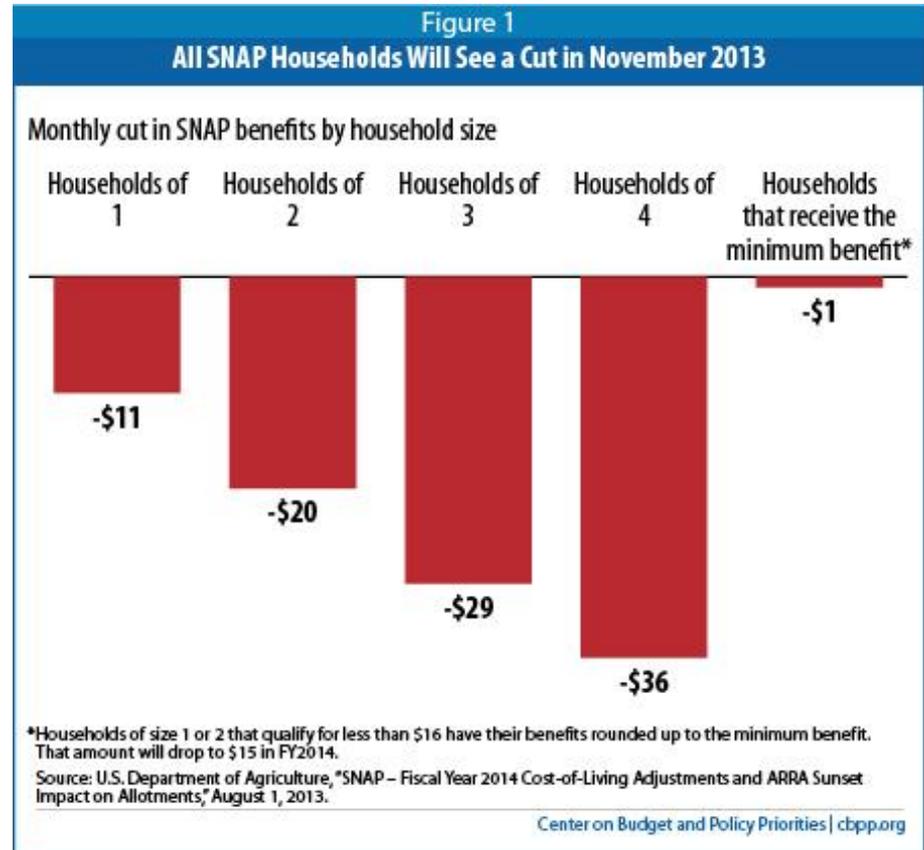
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## Making the Most of the August Recess

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### SNAP Already Facing Automatic Cut

- SNAP benefits are already going to be cut in November when the 2009 ARRA boost ends
- Family of four could see their benefits drop by \$36 per month
- Currently on average, SNAP benefits only amount to \$1.50 per meal and 90 percent of SNAP benefits are used up by the third week of the month
- See how this automatic cut will impact your state at: <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=3899>



## August Action

### *Make the Most of the August Recess!*

- **Members of Congress are home** until after Labor Day
- **Follow up** on your [July requests](#) for face-to-face meetings
- Use our [Elected Officials page](#) to get **contact information** for schedulers
- **Not too late to try to get a face-to-face meeting** – use our [August Recess Lobby Meeting Request Letter](#)
- **Ask about [town hall meetings](#)**, forums, or public appearances
- **See the [August Action](#)** for extra tips on meetings and town halls, as well as sample questions on all our issues

## Successful Town Hall Meetings

- **Have questions prepared** before hand (use [EPIC Laser Talk](#) format)
- **Go in a group** and spread out
- Get there early
- Seize the opportunity – get that hand up **first, fast, and high!**
- Give staff [lobby request sheets](#)
- **Work the media** at the event
- **Follow up** and be persistent

Check out the [August Action](#) for more!



## Advocacy Training – Draft a Question about SNAP

- **14.9 percent** of households were food insecure at least some time during the year 2011 (over 50 million people)
- **1 out of 2 children** will receive federal food assistance during their lives
- **One in seven Americans received SNAP**, a record **47.8 million** people in December 2012
- SNAP lifted **4.7 million** Americans out of poverty in 2011
- Children on SNAP have **better health** as adults
  - Female children also have better high school attainment and earnings as adults
- SNAP has a **96 percent accuracy rate**; only 1 percent attributable to fraud
  - 95 percent of SNAP spending goes to providing assistance; only 5 percent admin costs
- Among SNAP households with at least one working-age, non-disabled adult, **more than half work** while receiving SNAP — and more than **80 percent work in the year prior to or the year after** receiving SNAP

## Advocacy Training – Draft a Question about SNAP

### *Sample EPIC Laser Talk*

**Engage:** Studies show that children who are regularly hungry struggle in school and suffer from weakened immune systems, slowed and abnormal growth, and anemia.

**Problem:** Unfortunately, the House is planning to cut SNAP by \$40 billion, which will force more than 4 million people off the program.

**Inform:** The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is the first line of defense against hunger in America, helping millions of Americans put food on the table. Yet this new House bill would kick millions of out of work people off the program – many earning no more than \$2,500 per year – and even reward states for doing so. When did kicking people when they're down becoming a governing principle.

**Call to Action:** Will you tell House leadership that you oppose the House SNAP proposal and urge them to protect and strengthen SNAP in any final Farm Bill or other legislation?

## The Financial Security Credit is Introduced!

- Rep. Jose Serrano (D-NY-15) introduced H.R. 2917 the [\*Financial Security Credit Act of 2013\*](#) on August 1 (already [22 co-sponsors](#))
- Low Income Tax Filers can:
  - Deposit all or part of tax refund into an eligible savings product (e.g. IRAs, 401(k)s, 529 College Savings Plans). And receive a **50 cents per dollar match** for their deposits, up to \$500
  - Deposit all or part into a traditional savings account but would have to **wait 8 months** before getting the match
- If no account, can open one on tax return
- Urge Reps to co-sponsor H.R.2917 – use our [online FSC action alert](#)

## Early Childhood Update

- Senate Appropriations Committee passed Labor-HHS bill in July with **major new investments** in early childhood development
- [Head Start, Early Head Start](#) gets a **\$1.6 billion increase**
  - \$1.4 billion for Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships
  - \$171 million for Head Start cost of living and recompetition costs
- [Child Care Development Block Grant](#) gets **\$176 million increase**
  - \$110 million for new quality improvements available to every state
- **\$750 million for state pre-school development grants** to help expand pre-school to all low- and moderate-income children
- Urge Reps and Senators to support the Senate Labor-HHS funding levels using our [online early childhood action alert](#)



# Your Conference Shares!



**Myrdin Thompson**



REGISTER NOW FOR THE RESULTS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2013!

poverty

Featuring Nobel Peace Prize Winner and founder of Grameen Bank Muhammad Yunus and author and activist Marianne Williamson

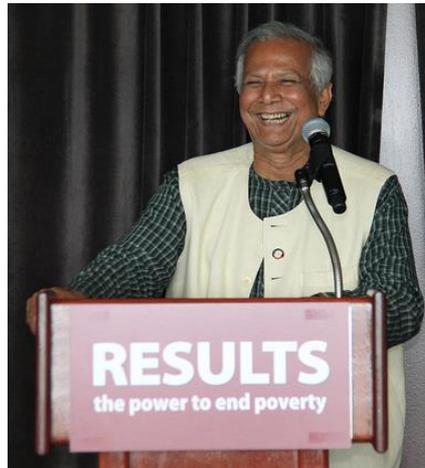
July 20-23, 2013 in Washington, DC

Look for updates at [www.results.org/events](http://www.results.org/events)

@RESULTS\_tweets

[facebook.com/RESULTSedfund](https://facebook.com/RESULTSedfund)

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## Making the Most of the August Recess



### Fundraising Update

Cindy Changyit Levin

- **Everyday Hero Dash:** Raised \$1500, 66 participants, 35 in DC.
- **Celebrate with RESULTS:** Use new celebration envelopes or online tool. See example at: <http://tinyurl.com/myrdin44>
- **Set fundraiser dates!** Great time for house party or backyard BBQ. Lots of time to plan larger events for late fall/winter. **Events help with fundraising AND expansion goals!**



Honor a friend, family member, or special occasion by investing in health, education, and economic opportunity for all. Your recipient will be informed of your thoughtful gift.

Give for any occasion:  
Wedding • Birthday • Anniversary  
Get Well Wish • Holiday Greeting  
Remembrance • Religious Ritual  
Graduation

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Thank you!



## Roll Call

1. How many people are in the room?
2. How many requests for face-to-face meetings or town hall appearances you're your group try to schedule during the August recess?



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## Announcements

Jos Linn, Des Moines, IA

### We are still working to start new RESULTS U.S. Poverty groups

- RESULTS Outreach meeting in **Burlington, VT, August 17**.  
Contact Jenny Martin at [jmartin@results.org](mailto:jmartin@results.org) for details.
- RESULTS Outreach Meeting in **Kansas City, MO, September 18**.  
Contact Jos Linn at [jlinn@results.org](mailto:jlinn@results.org) for details.
- RESULTS Outreach Meeting in **Albuquerque, NM, September 18**.  
Contact Myrdin Thompson at [mthompson@results.org](mailto:mthompson@results.org) for details.

If you know people interested in RESULTS in these or other places, please contact us!

**Please complete our online Lobby Meeting Report Form** for each meeting in DC and during the August recess. Important for follow-up and providing you support. [www.tinyurl.com/2013lobbyreportform](http://www.tinyurl.com/2013lobbyreportform)

## RESULTS Announcements

**RESULTS Introductory Call:** Wednesday, August 14, 9:00 pm ET.

Register for this or another Intro Call at

[www.tinyurl.com/RESULTSMeeetandGreet/](http://www.tinyurl.com/RESULTSMeeetandGreet/).

**RESULTS U.S. Poverty Free Agents Call:** Tuesday, August 20, 9:00 pm ET. (218) 486-1611, passcode RESULTS (7378587, plus #).

Nominate someone to be a **RESULTS/RESULTS Educational Fund (REF) Grassroots Board Member**. Nominations are due by September 24. You can e-mail your nomination to [jmclaughlin@results.org](mailto:jmclaughlin@results.org) or fax to (202) 466-1397.

You can find a full-list of upcoming events, along with call-in numbers on the [RESULTS Events Calendar](#).

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**Thank you for being on today's call!**

The next RESULTS U.S. Poverty National Conference Call is  
**Saturday, September 7 at 12:30 pm ET.** NOTE THE RESCHEDULED  
DATE!

**Thank you and farewell to our wonderful summer staff!**



**Katja Kleine**



**Ann Beltran**



**Errolyn Gray**