050722 Results.org-Webinar Series

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[Waiting for meeting to begin.]

>>KEN PATTERSON: Happy Saturday. I'm director of grassroots impacts for RESULTS and excited to kick of today's webinar, preparing us for advocacy month. Before we dive in, we read the RESULTS anti-oppression values statement at the top of every webinars. I want you to go beyond reading the statement. Since February this year, we've offered a training twice a month for all advocates.

On to our next section.

>>LISA MARCHAL: Thank you to everyone on the poll. I'm a manager of grassroots impact and live in Indianapolis. It's the month of the Indy 500. If you're a race fan, let me know. This is our month to shine. It's my pleasure to welcome Cynthia Changyit Levin, author of *From Changing Diapers to Changing the World*. Many of you know Cindy or will want to. We have known her for about 14 years. She's a global group leader in Chicago and St. Louis, 2 terms as a board member, fundraising coach, received an award for citizen journalism, advocate and speaker. She's developing and raising daughters who are advocates and probability speakers soon, advocating with them for a long time.

[On screen.]

Our goal is to have all RESULTS advocates participate in the training to help us get on the same page as an organization and encourage us to continue self discovery and learning on issues of oppression. We've had 119 RESULTS advocates participate, a good start. We have 2 more trainings before a break for summer. That's May 13 and 25.

The training has received great reviews to those new to the subject and to those with experience. Please sign up. Details on the training and how to sign up are in this link.

[See chat.]

Sign up.

On to advocacy month, running from May 30 - July 8. June 4 and 5 are the international conference. It goes beyond that. We created a June sandwich between Memorial Day and July 4th recess, giving optimal changes to meet face to face with members of Congress. The goals are 3 things.

[Reading from slide.]

You and your group will decide how to best use advocacy month to do those things. Here are objectives to consider as you make your plans.

[Speaker reading: 1.]

You'll have multiple opportunities to do this in person or via video. The Memorial Day recess is at the end of May. You have the entire month of June, including June 12 - 14 in DC, where every group can send a delegate. Then the July 4th recess at the end of this. There's nothing more influential than meeting Members of Congress in person.

COVID-19 reduced direct contact with senators. We want to use advocacy month to fix that.

[Speaker reading: 2]

Also action network members and neighboring districts. Work to request more meetings with congressional offices to broaden membership. Have them be your delegate in DC in June or play significant leadership roles in congressional meetings or community outreach.

Today's webinar is about preparing for advocacy month. Here's what we have lined up today. First, you'll hear about our top priority advocacy objectives from our policy team. Then our St. Louis advocate will talk about her new book, *From Changing Diapers to Changing the World*. Then we'll hear from advocates in DC for our small, mighty in person lobbying day. Then we'll go into detail on how to prepare for advocacy month. It's exciting. I'll kick this to Meredith.

>>MEREDITH DODSON: Greetings from DC. I'm on staff with RESULTS, director of the RESULTS United States poverty policy work. RESULTS is focusing on the CTC to dramatically reduce child poverty. I want to acknowledge your important work for the EITC for younger workers and those who don't claim dependents, an expansion in place in 2021 and continued priority for us in years ahead.

How does our work on affordable housing show up in the next months? We're not including a specific housing ask in our policy push so we can put all energy into the CTC. To talk about housing, remind Members of Congress about how the CTC has helped families deal with rising housing costs. Talk about challenges faced in your community. Acknowledge that we need to do more with tax policy and beyond to address our affordable housing crisis and further economic justice in the future.

We'll have information on housing and tax work within our priorities. There's no specific bill or ask this month. Stay tuned.

I'm excited. Michael Santos can't be on the call, but many have been learning about housing policy. Michael will walk us through that in months ahead.

Back to the CTC, it's so effective in lifting families and children out of policy. In the next few minutes, I'll share background on the CTC, how families use it, data after the CTC expired and context for short and long-term work on the CTC. Our focus is on policy that reduces child policy, not legislative vehicles, and provides support materials to make a powerful case for the CTC in the next 2 months.

As we think about tax policy, we have an overarching goal, reforming the tax code, reducing policy and informing justice. The CTC has been around for a while. It's had historically bipartisan report. In 2021, legislation expanded the CTC and cut child poverty by more than 40%. I want to include who was eligible and left out until 2021 and who benefited from monthly and expanded CTC.

The blue lines are changes in place last year. The amount was increased for low and moderate income families, distributed monthly for the second half of last year, and fully refundable for the first time, meaning families with low/no incomes got the full value for the first time last year.

That's why blue lines above come in straight out rather than phase in based on income. Now we're back. Those changes have expired. The CTC goes back to the grey line further down.

Next, we'll look at how the CTC helped families make ends meet. Studies show how families use the CTC. Housing shows up prominently. You're looking at an analysis looking at the data from the United States Census bureau household pulse survey between July and September 2021, looking at how lower income families use the CTC. We're looking at housing, food, clothing, utilities, education, and basic necessities getting more expensive for many of us.

At a time where only 1 in 4 families gets federal housing assistance, the CTC plays a role for some families in housing cost. At the gas pump and grocery store, many of us are seeing skyrocketing housing costs across the country. I hope many of you are not feeling the brunt of that firsthand but imagine some are. That's how families use the CTC.

We know the CTC made a dramatic impact on child poverty in the second half of 2021. Many families struggle as payments expire. Columbia University researchers found an increase from 12.1% to 17%, an overall 41% increase. This represents Latino and Black children experiencing the largest percentage point increases in poverty. I reached out to Columbia this week. They created a visual because they appreciate how you're using the data in your advocacy month conversations and beyond.

Let me talk about the short-term. I hope you're ready. That's the context. We have an important policy in place. It's expired. We have an opportunity to reverse that. I want to be clear in this context. A partisan package passed through reconciliation and an economic package through the reconciliation process is by far our best shot at extending the CTC, in particular for a CTC that reduces child poverty and increases equity by reaching low income families. There are clear legislative priorities.

Some legislatures are trying to secure a packing by Memorial Day in 3 weeks. Much focus is on reducing cost. We can make the case. That the CTC is positioned for families facing challenges, putting food on the table and higher housing costs.

This is perhaps a once in a lifetime opportunity to secure historic breakthroughs against child poverty. If you're interested in structure changes to tax code, this is the moment that faces us. Tax code is a place to make that happen. Advocacy on tax policy is about these long-term changes. The next 3 weeks are critical, as they look to reach a deal on what that package looks like by Memorial Day.

They're talking about the extension of the CTC and what it may look like. It's unlikely the fully CTC will be extended. I want to underscore how key full refundability of the CTC is. This ensures families get the full value of the CTC. We shared this data last fall, where the Jane Family Institute found full refundability alone would cut child poverty by 19% annually. Data is broken down by race and ethnicity.

We want changes to the tax code, like full refundability, in a package that could be finalized in the next few weeks. Long-term, we hope for broad partisan support to reduce poverty, key to protecting CTC changes and making permanent policy change.

As you meet policymakers, we'll support you by providing talking points. We have different versions of laser talks and other materials geared toward conversations with other types of policymakers. We expect an updated CTC from Sen. Romney from Utah with a child allowance proposal. We'll give you materials to support long-term conversations.

What's the reference for 2015? I want to flag that. In a possible scenario of how policies might move related to the CTC, it's a year end, bipartisan tax package that Congress passed similarly in 2015. Many of you worked hard on that for years. RESULTS secured permanent expansions to the CTC and EITC in that package. That's the reference for 2015 included here.

As we wrap this section, I'm happy to answer questions in the chat. I encourage jotting down something you heard or that you see in your own life or community about why the CTC is important. Put it in the chat, jot it down to yourself. What's something I can pull from this and use in my advocacy month conversations.

>>CRICKETT NICOVICH: Now time for the global campaign update. I'm excited to help get you ready for advocacy month. I want to give an update to where we are now. We want to make sure that you're getting into action around finalizing our work around appropriations, as it's still appropriations season.

The House deadline. Many worked to get 3 dear colleague letters signed on. They closed 4/27. Senate committee deadlines are May 17th. I want to go backward from that.

[Speaker reading: 120 signers . . . ]

[Speaker reading: 149 signers . . . 178 signers . . .]

That letter also had funding numbers. It's a strong showing. Glad to see that.

On current global asks, we want to make sure that we're still pushing forward in this month to reach Senate deadlines. We have a Dear Colleague circulating with 26 Senate members signed on calling for robust global fund. We expect our letter on TB and material child health and nutrition to circulate this week with a deadline for May 19th with everything in the Senate. Those letters are a quick turnaround. You'll get an update Monday. Be on the lookout.

We're still following the global COVID-19 supplementing funding. As of last week, you had President Biden send a request for supplemental funding for Ukraine, including humanitarian aid. We're happy about the humanitarian aid and want that increased to at least $5B in global aid and nutrition dollars. We're pushing for $5B for global COVID-19. You may see us reach out in the next 2 weeks for action alerts. We want $5M included for global COVID-19, focusing on delivery of vaccinations and $5B for food aid and nutrition. Look for that. Those are current asks.

By June advocacy month, we expect all deadlines to have closed. I'll focus now on what we expect in June.

[Reading from slide.]

We want to build longterm champions on the Global Fund as we make sure it's funded.

[Speaker reading: Pass . . .]

That's Senate bill 2956. We had the House bill passed in the last week. You see an update on our senior associate from RESULTS on nutrition about passing the bill. When doing advocacy in June, we want to focus on getting the Senate bill cosponsors up. We passed the house. Now we've got to make it through the Senate.

The Global Fund is the best tool for getting us on track for AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

[Reading from slide.]

This is incredible in the work that they've done to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

[Reading from slide.]

These are 2020 stats. We'll get updates as we move along this year. We'll get 2021 stats. You're seeing a push even within COVID-19 to maintain the walls up against these 3 pandemics.

The Global Fund has replenishment and this cycle, raising money to make sure the United States is committing and that we're working with other countries and communities to get dollars in play. Countries come together and make their own plan using their country coordinating mechanism, which has everyone to the table, civil society, local governments, faith-based organizations and the ministry of health for what to do with these 3 diseases. The Global Fund approves those proposals. They're approved by experts. We know these plans will work in a country.

We work with countries directly to make sure programs work and how we've gotten to that 44 million lives saved.

Right now, we're looking for everyone together getting $18B for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. That leads to 3 years of work to save 20M more lives. We want to make sure the United States does our part.

From the United States, we're calling for $6B of $18B. $2B was for FY23. The advocacy you've done on the Global Fund to date has been pushing for the full $2B of the 3 year pledge. $6B is a third of Global Fund funding needed. The United States government has a legal cap that we can't spend more than that. We have to work with other countries to push forward.

Our efforts from our fly in in April and June are working toward getting more champions and folks in Congress reaching out to leadership in the United States and partners around the world to make sure we're rallying for the full $18B.

Our last bit for advocacy month is we're focusing on the malnutrition bill. The key is the underlying cause of almost half of all child deaths under age 5 from mainly preventable, treatable issues. Malnutrition is a clear driver.

Our policy request for pushing for this advocacy month is make sure our senators cosponsor and push passage of the S.2956. HR4693 is similar with a few differences. We like the Senate bill because it has a stronger monitoring and evaluation section. We want to pass this bill this Congress. Your work in June will be instrumental.

These are core issues for advocacy month. I hope you'll have different updates and leave behinds that Ken will go over later to highlight where you can get more information. Thank you so much.

>>SARAH LEONE: Awesome. We'll welcome our new advocates. We're excited to welcome 50 new volunteers to our movement as part of spring recruitment. The expansion campaign has done a fabulous job bringing in new advocates. Use the chat to extend a warm welcome to those that joined RESULTS this year. A few attended the April event and jumped into action. That's hard to do. Very grateful that these advocates are on.

We were all new advocates at one point. I like to think that we remember the emotions when leaving our first meeting with a Members of Congress in person, on Zoom or hybrid. I felt relief 6 years ago and empowered and ready for my next one. I was thinking about arguments to use in defense of the SNAP, EITC and CTC programs. I had amazing guidance from Maxine Thomas, Kevin Pearson, and more.

The new advocates will fuel our power for advocacy month. This is a great opportunity to engage new volunteers and empower them into powerful action just like we were helped once. Let's help advocates have a powerful experience, whether attending a first meeting with an MOC in June in person, online, etc. You all create a positive environment for new advocates that join.

We appreciate all that you do. Thank you so much for being here.

We'll take attendance of who is here. If you have more than one person in the room watching, put that number in the chat so we can count.

[See poll.]

We're excited that you're on the call. We're halfway through taking attendance. If you're on the phone or chat isn't working, let a staff member know how many are in the room.

I'm seeing well wishes in the chat. Thank you to those welcoming new advocates.

She and her family are good friends of mine it's a delight to sit with her for a minute and discuss this book and how it intersects with us at RESULTS. Why did you write this book?

>>CYNTHIA CHANGYIT LEVIN: I'm excited to talk to this audience. RESULTS is my advocacy home. It's clear in the book. Dr. Joanne Carter wrote the forward. It will look familiar when people read it. RESULTS taught me so much. This is the book I wish I had 18 years ago when I had my first baby. I could have used a book that assured me that I had an active, important role to play in shaping the world even amongst changing priorities and identity.

Moms feel dismissed in a professional setting. Our time can be hampered by time restrictions of caring for kids. I wanted to work through that with advice and instructions. People on the call will recognize the instructions and epic format teachings from RESULTS training. I packaged tips and anecdotes, funny and moving, for me and moms of diverse backgrounds working on different issues. There are a lot of familiar RESULTS names in it. Gratitude to everyone who contributed.

>>LISA MARCHAL: Great. In looking at the basics that we talk about regularly, I'm excited that they felt immediately applicable and powerful in your setting and framing. Your perspective is as a mother, thinking about motherhood and those who nurture this weekend. Why do moms make great advocates?

>>CYNTHIA CHANGYIT LEVIN: That's the magic question. I think I have 5 good reasons in the book. We'll tap into 2 with the core values of RESULTS. Moms are good about explaining things. We explain all day long, especially with toddlers who discovered "why?" If you can explain things to a second grader, you can explain to Members of Congress. That gets a laugh. I understand why. I don't mean it to be a snarky dig. They're human and sit in briefings with jargon and statistics. Everyone like is a simple explanation with illustrative stories. Moms are master explainers of concepts for why we care, consequences of actions, what happens if you hit your friend or don't fully fund the Global Fund. It's all of these things together.

RESULTS members know that you have to understand material before you break it down and clearly explain to others. That trait is a great RESULTS skill and advocacy skill in general. The second reason is pertinent for this audience, persistence. I see that it takes more reminders to get a member to sign on to something than to get kids to put away laundry. Convey urgency with a patient mom face, a skill that comes in handy a lot.

Moms aren't the only ones with these skills. Children are unexpectedly good trainers at giving caregivers practice in traits good for RESULTS style advocacy, like explaining and persistence.

>>LISA MARCHAL: I love the alteration. Powerful things plainly spoken and persistence.

>>CYNTHIA CHANGYIT LEVIN: Someone asked if I write with alliteration on purpose. I guess I just like it.

>>LISA MARCHAL: Great memory tool. You mentioned that mothers are powerful. Not everyone is a mother and has that framing. Everyone has powerful identities and constituencies that you can call to leadership and advocacy. In the book, you reflect on how you – and other mothers – are uniquely positioned to reach other mothers. How can we think about ourselves as being powerful within our constituencies and communities to inspire and draw them to the work?

>>CYNTHIA CHANGYIT LEVIN: I like the question about us each having a specific constituency or community. For 15 years, my special community that no other RESULTS members could reach are moms in my play groups, temple, etc. I understand their challenges and barriers to advocacy. Where can I reach that you can't? You'll be somewhere I can't be.

When it comes to answers and creating invitations and spaces for them, I recommend using your specialized knowledge to be where they're at. For example, I was at a community swimming pool on a weekday afternoon and got a call from RESULTS to reach Sen. Durbin in Illinois. I walked around with a script and asked other moms to call. The aid called and said they got it.

Maybe it's a pool, farmers market, or community garden. Don't forget to be generous and helpful. We don't want to be strictly transactional. I do this for you. You do this for me. It feels good and natural if you're building up those relationships with respect and mutual benefit.

>>LISA MARCHAL: Wonderful. That's a piece about making sure that it's not transactional, resenting in connecting with other advocates and framing issues for all. It's not that someone wins and someone loses. We want everyone to win in what we do.

>>CYNTHIA CHANGYIT LEVIN: Take that to your coalition work.

>>LISA MARCHAL: Last question. We're bridging to advocacy month with the virtual conference and fly in. Everyone can take advantage. We want them to take advantage of advocacy month, that wonderful stretch from end of May Recess to beginning of July recess to have those meetings. What broader lessons would you say we can take to positively impact advocacy month and what we're doing in coming weeks?

>>CYNTHIA CHANGYIT LEVIN: Advocacy month is new as far as the time I've been in RESULTS. I want to point out the idea about a whole advocacy month. We have the luxury of time to be comfortable and at our best when we do this. We have time to prepare and work on a lobbying experience that works best for you and your group.

We have time to prepare new advocates in the group and names added to RESULTS. So exciting. We want to make sure they don't feel thrown to the wolves. If it takes one-on-one coaching or extra practice, it's worth it to acquaint new advocates to the thrill of lobbying, taking an active, leading role and not pushing them to the side. That's what I'm saying. Let's take these training things and work on these things in the book that I learned from RESULTS, crafting our personal, epic format, laser talks, getting stories down, and introducing ourselves and passions to Members of Congress. Take time to do that. That's my bridge to that.

>>LISA MARCHAL: Great. Thank you for that. Every voice is valuable. Everyone can be a leader in the capacity they wish to be. Part of our advocacy work and mandate is build each other up as advocates regardless of years of experience or perspective. Everyone is important.

>>CYNTHIA CHANGYIT LEVIN: Even on Zoom. Make space.

>>LISA MARCHAL: Thank you so much for this conversation. Just a couple fun nuggets is Joanne Carter wrote the forward and how to section at the end, chock full of RESULTS best practices. We'll make sure you have Cindy's website in the chat and followup listserv email. We're delighted to have one of our own in this conversation. Thank you.

>>CYNTHIA CHANGYIT LEVIN: Thank you. Good to be with everyone.

>>KARYNE BURY: Thank you so much. It's a wonderful book with great tips on outreach and advocacy within respective communities. I'm part of the grassroots impact team at RESULTS joining you from Miami, Florida. It's my pleasure to introduce you to 2 advocates who will be on the Hill for the first time in 2.5 years.

First, Alexis Hicks is an advocate from Mississippi.

>>ALEXIS HICKS: Apologies in advance for the noise. I'm in the airport in Miami. This was my first time doing the in person advocacy. I've been part of the RESULTS community for 5 months. It was an amazing experience, especially for a first time experience. It was such a great sense of community to be in the space with so many people who are advanced and new people.

Some of my favorite parts were having coaching sessions. It was out of my comfort zone. Just having a community of folks on RESULTS teams and other volunteers there to ease my mind helped me think through when it came to my specific meeting. Even with my in person meeting, I didn't meet my senator, but I met his legal assistant. Sen. Wicker does work with the Global Fund. It was a fruitful discussion.

We discussed what work may look like in August. I'm excited about that possibility. It was a pleasant experience. I didn't know what to expect. I took so much from the experience. Things can transition to my daily work. I look forward to growing within the RESULTS community and honing in on my advocacy skills.

>>KARYNE BURY: Thank you so much. Next, we'll hear from Ben Callaway from Pittsburgh.

>>BEN CALLOWAY: I'm a volunteer with RESULTS Pittsburgh and joined in late 2019. I didn't get a chance to do in person advocacy before COVID-19 shutdowns. I was nervous. Prep sessions were incredible. Staff were supportive. They went with us to many meetings. My first meeting with a congressional office was with an office that I didn't know well. In looking at social media feeds, you wouldn't think they're supportive of the Global Fund. I was nervous. Stephanie and Ken Paterson were there. We met his representative and found they were supportive of the Global Fund and would support the $2B ask for FY23.

That's someone we can build to the champion scale. I met my congressman, Mike Doyle. That was an incredible experience. My wife and son were on that meeting. He's 15 months and started yelling. It was via Zoom. It was great to make an ask directly to my elected representative and ask about the $2B ask. He was supportive.

I got to share my experience as a Peace Corp volunteer and incorporate my story into my ask with Congress. It was a great experience. I'm appreciative to the RESULTS staff who accompanied us. It was a great experience. I recommend getting on this during advocacy month.

>>KARYNE BURY: Thank you so much. Glad to have you and have that experience in DC. We're excited for another in person gathering to support folks in advocating on the Hill on June 12 - 14, part of the June sandwich, including our international conference.

>>KEN PATTERSON: We've had a lot of information. After hearing about our campaigns, I hope you're excited to work with your group for a powerful advocacy month. This is a big opportunity to inspire the entire network and have breakthroughs in in person meetings with Members of Congress.

Here are suggested next steps in planning advocacy month.

[Reading from slide.]

Invite your group, action network, and others to join. This is virulent. Anyone can join. Register.

[On screen.]

Have a conversation with your group about advocacy month. I put these 4 questions to guide your conversation.

[Speaker reading: Question 1.]

How will we use advocacy month to grow influence with congress and strengthen our group.

[Speaker reading: Who is our delegate . . .]

If you've not done this, select one delegate from your group to join the June 12 - 14th in person advocacy event in DC. Remember, we want groups to send newer people who have been with your group but not been in person. Anyone who joined in the last 3 years hasn't done that.

We need to know delegates by Monday, May 9th. Work quickly to get us delegate names. Send that information to Jos, Lisa, Sarah or Karyn or email grassroots@results.org. We welcome people paying for flights and hotels to come to DC, but it's not a requirement. We have the resources to cover cost. Cost shouldn't be a factor.

Note that current fellows or experts on poverty have an option to come to DC. You don't need to count them. Send someone else. You'll have a chance to send several people if you have expires and fellows on poverty.

[Speaker reading: Which members . . .]

Decide which Members of Congress you'll meet with and which you want to have happen while your delegate is in DC and which you want in your state or district. Schedule no more than 4 meetings in DC. They can't all happen there. Figure out how you'll strategize and have meetings across that period of time. You want to meet local district people and Members of Congress, neighboring districts, etc. Be ambitious about offices you meet with.

Include offices in nearby districts that you've not had contact with. Everything you need to request meetings can be found on the advocacy month resource page on the website. We'll continue adding resources.

[See chat.]

There's a sample letter for requesting meetings with Members of Congress. Start right away so you have the best chance of a face to face meeting with Members of Congress during that time.

[Speaker reading: How can we engage . . .]

Take time thinking about how you can engage friends, colleagues, your action network members, like-minded organizations, and others in advocacy month. Do you want to organize letter writing meetings to support your request in Washington or local meetings? Do you want to invite people to join congressional meetings to know what it's like to have those powerful meetings? Talk that through with your group.

As you have these conversations with groups, we're working hard to support you. Let me tell you how. Our requests for advocacy month focus on the CTC, Global Fund to find AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and global nutrition. This is great timing to make a difference on all of these issues. Those are the 3 main issues during advocacy month. There are things to do before. These are the three for advocacy month.

We'll make sure you have everything that you need to advocate with offices. You can use the meeting request letter on the resource page . . . [Reading from slide.]

We have other upcoming great opportunities to get information and support you for a great advocacy month. Regional coordinators and RESULTS staff will work with you to find times for your whole state to do a lobby prep call later in May. RCs will be in touch. Staff will coordinate to help you set up statewide meetings for lobby prep.

We'll have policy forums on May 19th to answer questions. This will be useful for those setting up Memorial Day resource meetings at the end of May. May 19th is a great time to ask questions and get support.

There's an office hours set up for May 26th at 12:30 PM for questions or support. We're excited to support you to have a powerful advocacy month. Work with your group to make the most of it. We'll do our best to support you. I'll hand it over for additional announcements. Great seeing everyone day.

>>JOS LINN: Hi from Kansas City. I'll close the call with announcements but first turn it to a grassroots board member.

>>LINDSAY SAUNDERS: We're closing up the call. We're asking you to not go just yet. Good morning and afternoon. I'm one of your 4 elected grassroots board members. I'll drop a link in the chat with a blog introducing all of us. I'm excited to join you and participate in my first webinar since becoming a mother 6 months ago.

We have elections going on and extended the closure for nominations one more time since we didn't get to promote via webinar as normal. You may wonder what grassroots board members do. We're busy and involved in important, interesting things. Board members are voted on by advocates. Board commitments are 3 years with a 2 term limit. We represent the grassroots to the board by advocating for grassroots interests, communicating needs, feedback and concerns, educating you and the board about the function of the board on what's going on and shared interests, acknowledge and celebrate grassroots accomplishments, and encourage participation on committees, where appropriate. We keep you up to date.

We have quarterly town halls to stay in touch and listen to feedback. It's up to us to ensure sustainability and effectiveness of RESULTS. I'll give some other details.

Every grassroots board member is part of the executive committee, meeting monthly. There are issues, governance, financing, and funding committees. We encourage participation from any RESULTS volunteer, including diverse populations, young and underrepresented. If you're passionate about RESULTS and involved in the organization for 1 year and are unsure if you're board material but are into this, go for it. This is my first term. Someone said I should run. Here we are. I'm in the second year of my first term. It's been a valuable, insightful experience.

If you haven't considered it, you can nominate yourself or someone else. Eligible grassroots board member candidates must have one active year of experience, committed to the mission of RESULTS and anti-oppression values, ready and willing to meet the issues of grassroots board members.

We wanted to extend the deadline to Monday, May 9th, previously May 2nd. Now is time to submit nominations for who it should be. You can nominate yourself or someone else. I'll drop those details into the chat. These can be found in your weekly update. That's this coming Monday.

In addition, I mentioned our quarterly town halls, initially scheduled for Thursday, May 12th. We moved it to Wednesday, May 18th. Mark your calendars. We had great turnout during last year's quarterly town hall. It's great to engage with grassroots members around the country. I'll drop links in the chat. I've got two. One is about your grassroots board members currently. The other promotes the election.

If you have questions, the first link has email addresses for all four of us, Jen, Lily, Maxine and myself. It's just 2 more days. If you're unsure but committed to RESULTS for at least a year, go for it. We welcome you and your voice. We need good representation of grassroots advocates on your board. You have influence. Your voice matters. Good to be here with you.

>>JOS LINN: Thank you so much. If you know someone who would make a good grassroots board member, submit your nomination by Monday. They play such an important role. Lindsay is an example of that.

I'll close the call with announcements and reminders. We have 2 sessions of our diversity and inclusion 101 trainings.

[On screen.]

May 25th is the second. Focus on the first to get as many folks registered as possible. You'll get a lot out of it.

Also other opportunities of calls coming up. Our policy forums are 5/19 on lobby prep.

[Reading from slide.]

There will also be an office hour in the last week of May. Here are other announcements. Read the slides.

Please register for the international conference 1 month away. We won't have our regular webinar. We'll have the international conference. We look forward to joining. We will have great speaking, training, etc. planned. We look forward to you participating on the 4th and 5th.

Have a beautiful May. Enjoy the good weather. Hopefully, the rain will subside in DC. You usually get my weather. It's coming your way. Let's open the lines and have everyone wish each other happy Mother's Day.

[Crosstalk.] [Thanks and Happy Mother's Day.]

[End of meeting.] [210 PM ET.]

[Have a great day!]