

Live captioning by Ai-Media

KEN PATTERSON:

I will hit the record button.

JOANNE CARTER:

Welcome, everyone. It is great to be with you all. I was not able to be on the webinar in January, so I am thrilled to be with you all for the first time here in 2023

. I am Joanne Carter, Executive Director of RESULTS. For those of you who knew the community, I wanted to say a huge welcome.

We have new advocates calling in and joining from all across the country. Which is so important and exciting! Because we have a big agenda and we need the energy and creativity and the commitment of new folks.

And up all of us to drive this agenda forward. I wanted to say a special welcome to the new class results Fellows, which is an amazing group of more than 60 young leaders in this year-long fellowship. To help drive our work against poverty and oppression. I got a chance to meet the latest class of fellows a few weeks ago, I was enormously impressed by their insight and their passion.

And really grounded in their lived experience and their commitment. I really look forward to partnering together this year and hopefully, for years to come. With them.

Last month, we kicked off our set the agenda campaign for the new Congress. We are now waiting to see what Congress does. But, getting in their early to shape their priorities, and really to raise critical issues, higher on their agendas, and to create new allies and champions.

In some cases, just to create an opening. And all of the planning and requesting days you have done, they are really starting to become a reality. You know, we have been updating a map and I think our new state has lit up every day this week. -- A new state has lit up every day this week.

I know you are just getting started. This meeting and this moment are a chance to put cases to keep, crucial issues front and center with our members of Congress. What we know is possible and massively reducing child poverty in the US.

The housing crisis everywhere in this country and how the tax code can help address it. Tackling the biggest global... And drivers of poverty. Extending lifesaving committee services to everyone and ensuring that millions of children around the world have a chance to go to school and to learn.

When I first started doing results advocacy, I have to say, I was continually surprised. By the fact that so many lawmakers did not know, truly did not know, about many of the issues we are working on. That they would take action and ask and that was true across the political spectrum.

I have also seen overtime and even in the last months, how we can also help break down some of entrenched -- some entrenched views. Each meeting with a member of Congress is a chance to both build a relationship, and to ask them for action now. But, also to do it in some ways that have lasting impact.

We know that those relationships being built can transcend, help transcend any way, political device. Or move members from being passive supporters to active allies and champions.

We know that members who are already allies have support to keep up the fight. Particularly, driven by people with lived experience, moving forward on legislation, and policy.

At the start of the last Congress, some of you might remember that congresswoman Barbara Lee joined us on our webinar. If you do not know Representative Lee, she is one of the biggest champions and Congress on virtually every issue on organized results. She has been in Congress for 25 years.

But, when she spoke to us, she talked but how she still remembered that RESULTS was one of the very first groups in the door to help her set her own agenda in Congress.

I think that that mattered and I also think that, importantly, we continue to support her right from the start as a leader. He partnered her -- we partnered with her for those 25 years.

You are already doing that agenda setting with numbers of Congress. With the Democratic remember in Washington state, a Republican member in North Carolina, who were sworn in for the first time in January and within two weeks, their local result volunteers had already been intimate with them. That was before they could get aside committees or even unpacked their boxes.

They were already hearing from you. And then you know this, for those of you who have been around for a while, it is just as important that we get back in front of members we already know. Because every meeting, every connection, propels our current work forward and build a foundation for future impact. So, we can grab or treat new opportunities and also protect things that matter from harm.

So, speaking of new relationships, and building those relationships, I have a few exciting announcements about how we can all be in a relationship with each other this year. So, after two years of remote advocacy, we have heard that you want to do more building community and being together. This year results will focus particularly on supporting city state and regional in person gatherings.

So, much more to come about in planning, but a chance to get together locally, and regionally, to plan and connect in person. We will also continue to do so, smaller flying advocacy events in DC. Included targeting some key moments and key decision-makers. We will also have a special full network virtual gathering.

Because we know the power of this community when we all come together in action, I am also excited to announce that we will hold our first large-scale in-person international conference since the

pandemic in 2024. We will try to come back to you very soon with dates on that, looking potentially earlier than summer perhaps in the spring. But, are excited to all be together in person.

2024 and have a whole array of these regional and state gatherings this year. As we embark on a new year of action to tackle poverty and the structural oppression that holds it in place, it just feels important that our set the agenda advocacy efforts, in some ways, are taking Bruno in February. Which, as you know, is Black history month.

The work for racial economic justice has to be the bedrock of her advocacy. Understanding the roots of inequity and systemic oppression and the ways it has been solidified and propelled by unjust policies. And we have the obligation to replace unjust policies with more equitable ones.

Also, to understand and work to address oppression... Has and continues to drive. Change, challenge the status quo, defined where we need to go, and shape the ambition and direction of our policies and our goals.

In a few minutes, we will have a discussion area of policy about how we ship and policies like the child tax credit and the new runners tax credit, to create greater economic justice through the tax code.

You know, as we are engaging in this set the agenda moment, the tax graded may be well a brand-new idea for many members of Congress. Nothing like it exists at the federal level. You could literally be the first in the door to discuss this.

A two bedroom apartment is not enough for full-time... Every single US state. You may know this, you may be living this right now, but many -- many members of Congress do not. They need to hear from us. In a more personal knowledge, and your experience, and in your understanding of your community.

About how housing insecurity affects you, and that community holds commence power in this moment and you can move lawmakers own understanding and action on this new housing solution.

Our global campaigns Komodo here most urgently about the annual appropriations process, that process where we work with Congress, to help prioritize where government spending is for the next year. Digging into this, is some of the most complex advocacy work we do and some of the most transformational.

You have seen how the request you made of Congress have unlocked millions and utterly billions of dollars in new funding. For education and health. You know, against the most infectious -- the biggest infectious killers for nutrition and child survival. When we do this spring, will determine how we take forward that progress.

So, thank you to everyone who has already had the lobby meetings and I cannot wait to watch them as -- rest of the maps light up and see what would happen to the other. So, thank you, I will turn it back over to my colleagues, Ken Patterson. Ken, back to you.

KEN PATTERSON:

Thanks, Joanne. Thanks to the Grassroots Cafe, everyone. We will have a training today and do a number of other things. Before we get started with all of that, I wanted to do a quick POLL. Just wanted to see who was in the room with you. Including you, how many people have gathered for today's webinar with you? So, we will get a sense of who is with you today. Right now, I see 166 lines in -- coming in for us.

I know there are multiple people in some of the rooms. So, just let us know. It was in there with you and we will just -- who was in there with you and we will just leave this open for a second while you do that. Great, keep it coming here. Excellent!

Keep on coming. 65 houseplants, excellent. Dolores is on there, great, things for that, Dolores. Go ahead and do the poll. Everyone else, just hit the poll before we finish it up. Great! Seeing some also in the chat as well. Alright, I will end the poll here in a second.

Alright. And I will share the results with you. This is what it is saying right now. We have 170 lines coming in right now, which is great. Thanks for that. Jos will run the Grassroots Cafe today. I will hand over to him. -- I will hit it over to him.

JOS LINN:

Thanks, Ken. Hi, everyone! This is my first webinar of the year as well. So, happy New Year's to all of you! First thing I want to do, is building Joanne's welcome, welcome the new advocates and those who have been involved with result in last few months. Here's a list of those folks that have joined this year. Welcome to all, we are so glad you took part in our network now!

As Ken said, I will kick us off on the set the agenda In. So, first, I want to thank you all for helping us really set this campaign off. Get this campaign kicked off on the right foot. As you know, on the January webinar, we outlined four goals for the -- max at the January campaign. Planning, organizing, advocacy, and mobilizing. I will run through the first three here and my colleague Sara will touch on the mobilizing part. First, let's talk about planning...

Most of you have completed your 2024 roadmaps, setting your goals to move your members of Congress into action on her issues. They got so much for doing that! Completing your roadmaps means the results of staff and our volunteer leaders can start working towards helping you achieve your goals!

Also, your roadmaps are key on the staff to create a new congressional fungus chart. This chart tells us what -- congressional Congress chart.... So, once we have that chart completed, we can maximize our influence and start filling in the gaps. So, if you have not finished your -- completed your 23 roadmap yet, please -- 2023 roadmap yet, please completed as soon as possible. Let's plan to finish them no later than February 15.

You can find all of the group planning resources and roadmap resources on our website, a link in the

slide. And always, if you have questions, about the roadmap process, please do not hesitate to contact me. So, our second goal is focused on organizing. This is outreach to new advocates.

The set the agenda campaign as a great opportunity for -- to provide new advocates into action. Nothing, in my experience, nothing excites people about advocacy more than expanding our first lobby meeting. Imagine how you felt the first time you attended a meeting with your member of Congress.

It might have inspired you to do more. So, why not sure that extremes with others?

And you know, many groups are looking for new members to add to their groups. So, we are here to help! You know, since 2020, we have heard from nearly 4500 people about volunteering results. These were warm leads, people who asked about results but maybe did not follow through on orientation, or did not complete the orientation. And they can become potentially volunteers. So, your Regional Coordinator's are sending each group that list of warm leads from your state. Use them to invite... To attend your lobby meetings with you, to take action with you, and to join results. As part of it.

Our expansion team has created a fabulous outreach guide that has everything you need to reach out to these folks, including emails, and best practices for people. If you need additional coaching, do not hesitate to contact my colleague, Alicia Stromberg. She is happy to help. Finally, we will get into our advocacy part of the set the agenda campaign. Which is, as Jos mentioned, we congratulate those who have already done lobby meetings this year and thank you to everyone who has requested the meetings.

You know, in January long, we had six lobby meetings, including one face-to-face with an New York of Congress in North Carolina. So, Ken is going to tell us a little bit more about that experience.

KEN PATTERSON:

Thanks for that, Jos. We started requesting beings very early with our new representative, Chuck. In North Carolina. We reached out via his local campaign office, his website, and his Facebook page, and got it ready quick response. We use the set the agenda sample request letter as a basis for our request. And then once the debt -- the date was set, I reached out to our group, the together women rise advocacy area and return peace for volunteers of Western North Carolina. We also set up a lobbying prep call with the staff, with the result staff. Policy staff join. I was really helpful. In our meeting, we went through the issues, organize our agenda, and discuss the logistics for the day of the meeting..... The renters tax credit. He took a lot of notes. Was with us. And then we talked about the global issues. He said, so I do not know anything when we asked him what he knew about work.... So, we educated him a bit and then promise to follow up with more information and legibly to request.

We asked him who he should talk to in DC, and got the name of the ledge later director. We asked for a photo on the way out, and somewhere on the slides, there is a photo of us there and also the computer with seven people online on the screen. Before we left, one of our people in our party, Liz Colton, she asked represented Edwards if he was going to the Martin Luther King event in Asheville

the following morning.

He said he could not make it in the morning at that time. And then just as any good results volunteer would do, this return peace accord volunteer persisted and made the case that it was a big event was coming to. And it was really hard for him to not take two tickets.

So, on the way out of the meeting, the skeptics and physics were actually sitting into. They were cautiously optimistic. And then back on the Martin Luther King planning committee, when Liz told them that she had given the congressman to tickets, they said, "he will not come, Liz. Why did you bother doing that?" But then the following morning, there he was one of the front tables. I weaved my way through the tables, I tapped him on the shoulder, he literally just kind of jumped up to his feet and he shook my hand.

I thank him for coming to my event. He turned thanking me saying that he never knew about the event without our meeting and are in person contact the previous day. So, lots of lessons here. And the importance of being face-to-face is one of them. I think we made a great first impression that will not easily be forgotten.

And we will see where it goes from here. So, back to you, Jos.

JOS LINN:

Things, Ken. That is a great example of why these meetings – Mike thanks. Our priority for us and set the agenda. Because we know that is the best way to build support for our issues. Remember, our goal for set the agenda is to be every house and Senate office are network cover the end of March. This can be face-to-face meetings, it can be zoom meetings, or in person meetings with local staff.

So, please submit your lobbying meeting reports for the requests for your member of Congress as soon as possible! If you have not already. Any other great opportunity for face-to-face meetings in February, the house will be on recess February 10 through the 26th, and the Senate will be out February 18-26 (Speaks Indigenous language) Are set the agenda and mobbing page have all the materials to help you, including the sample meeting request letters, leave behind, laser talks, and new 2023 campaign policy briefs.

As Ken mentioned, once you get your meeting requested, lease, please, contact our colleague who will be speaking later on in the call, in our office to set up a lobbying protocol for your state. Results staff will call -- will coach you on how best to talk about the issues we are working on with your specific members of Congress, it is also a great way just to get your questions answered.

So, check out all of the resources on our site the agenda page and the lobbying page. And good luck! Let's get those roadmaps finalized. Let's have some powerful lobbying meetings and get our network in the process. With that, I will turn it over to my colleagues, Sarah Leone... For a closer look at having effective learning. -- About how effective learning is.

SARAH LEONE:

Wonderful, thank you so much, Jos. Give me one moment. Thank you for that really helpful break down ever goals... Happy Black history month! Although, I am one of many who believe that Black history should be celebrated each and every day. Today, Joanne and I will be speaking to you about how to have an effective lobby meeting with advocates of all levels, supported by some helpful motivational

Interviewing techniques. You have the opportunity to practice crafting some of the sentences, some sentences we hope you will use one meeting -- speaking with numbers of Congress. So, we can go to the next slide.

I wanted to center us for a minute. What does it mean to be authentic when speaking with numbers of Congress? For me, been letting them know who you are as a human being. It means doing my best. To see them as human beings.

We are human beings, essentially talking to others. And I, personally, have to break that down in my mind sometimes, especially when I was new to advocacy. What it means to advocate and speak with these people. Additionally, some I act like they are celebrities. They are not! And a friendly reminder, members of Congress also work for us. We pay their salaries, essentially. And by along, you know, we did process.

We know that speaking with members of Congress can be difficult. And we want us to take the time to acknowledge that sitting across from some of these numbers of Congress will test you. Within results is the compounded experience, we often work with legislators have displayed oppressive behavior. In a lot of ways, not wanting to support these constituents who are asking not to have to live in poverty, which is their right, and then to have that member of Congress not vote for hopeful anti-poverty policies can be oppressive and it hurts.

When they don't, you know, represent their constituents in their communities. I do not say this to cause divide, I say this because being authentic sometimes meaning -- sometimes means feigning things that not everyone agrees with. Additionally, it has been a reality for a lot of our advocates with lived experiences of policy, our advocates who have come from systematically marginalized community. And people who have seen this harm happened to their friends and fellow advocates firsthand.

All that being said, it is not impossible to work with these people!. It is also normal to be anxious, nervous, excited, of your feelings are valid. We are here because we want help bringing into poverty and that does mean working with Congress.

But, you do not have to pretend that you agree with everything that your member of Congress does. In fact, former staff for Sen. Murkowski's office and should last month of the National webinar that it is important to be authentic and to be honest. She said that it is okay to have some frustrations, but to not spend too much time focusing on them. But, to rather just be honest with where you are.

She encouraged us to find that human connection. She also knew some really great motivational interviewing lease questions as examples. Like, asking the staff or the member of Congress, in the last

couple of years, we have not had our needs -- had our needs met. What are your recommendations? This puts the onus on the staffer and/or the member of Congress and makes them do the thinking initially. Another great example that Anna mentioned in terms of dealing with a member of Congress that maybe has acted in against the best interests of their constituents, is counseling which may be used against different committees.

She frames the following question. Your member has said this about the LGBTQ+ communities, or they said this on foreign aid, or they said this on another hot topic issue. I disagree with them. And it personally affects me and because I know. But, I want to understand by the member of Congress or the staffer, why they feel this way. Can you please explained to me?

With that one sentence, you stated how you felt, you asked them to please explain why they feel that way. And, you also made your first attempt at finding some understanding. Even if it is causing you, maybe some uncomfortable feelings. Granted, you may not find the answer that you are personally looking for, but that nugget of information helps to determine what path to take next.

That can also be really helpful when you strategize on what you will try to talk to the member of Congress about next as well. That can be a unique exchange. Especially if it makes the staff or member of Congress think. This is where we can move them through the stages of change. So, talking happens when a mental conflict, a mental conflict essentially occurs when your beliefs do not line up with your actions.

Our goal is to have that happen so that we can sort of sweep and and say, "okay, well, you say you want to help your constituents lift them out of poverty, but you ordered against -- you voted against this policy that would help them do that. Can you please expend your understanding as to why?"

Getting them to experience the cognitive dissonance takes time and it takes skill, it takes practicing Motivational Interviewing. With which was in your advocacy journey, you will have the appropriate resources and trainees to do that. But, we will not go too much into detail about the stages of change.

I do encourage you to take a look at our resources on the website. Lastly, that sentence allows you to be authentic and stager grant, while respectful. As important as it is that we stick them in such a way that they continue to want to work with us.

Please know you can always ask another member of Congress, or excuse me, another member of your group, to step in if you ever begin to feel unsafe in the meeting or any other type of feelings that you are unable to process. We are here to support one another, even in front of a member of Congress. So, now we get to the fun part, Motivational Interviewing. And how it can be helpful for any advocate of any skill level. So, I will pass over to my colleague, Joanna.

JOANNA DISTEFANO:

Hi, Sara, thank you. You know, I think we can go to the next one. One of the things I come to appreciate about relational interviewing... This is where -- Motivational Interviewing... We are working

with member of Congress who is new or is not quite familiar with their work, or what they have in some of our policy positions. This open invitation to dialogue without values can be surprising and sometimes this alarming.

Seemingly endless positional arguments and still consult rationalization that often underlie in action. While we may not agree with the folks across the table, this is not as versus them endeavor, it is partnership is that we do not have to suck appraiser values and hide who we are to have an impact. To the contrary, value-based discussion is a part of Motivational Interviewing. With that focus, we meet a very important distinction.

Acknowledging of others viewpoints is not the same as agreeing with that. So, here that again and really take it to heart. You can acknowledge someone's viewpoint without agreeing with them. Motivational Interviewing challenging us to really sit with her own assumptions and biases relating to people who do not agree with us.

And vice versa. We can share, listen, devestate empathy, compassion, all the while stepping into that space, where we are trial -- traveling ambivalence and oppressing behaviors, including our own. He will respond to members of Congress come with thoughtfulness and authenticity. Drive them into productive discussions and deeper relationships rooted in shared values, promoting more meaningful change in the long haul.

Next slide. We have a very simple and easy to remember after them to help us anchor and motivational interviewing techniques when it comes to a congressional meeting. And that is OARS. That stands for open question. Affirmation. Reflections. And summaries.

For the presentation today, I will be covering the first few items, and Sara will catch the last two. So, next slide. Alright, let's begin with open questions. So, we understand our purpose in meeting with our members of Congress is to elicit their support on a given issue, or, to otherwise move them up to champion scale.

So, asking question is a great weight for a congenial tone for that conversation. Better yet, asking direct kind of questions, and open one, or one in which the answer is not limited to a simple yes or no, gives the person we are having a conversation with the opportunity to elaborate beyond just a few words.

We are able to get closer to understand the values and beliefs underlying their positions. Open questions typically begin with the words, "who, what, when, where, why, and how." Some very general open questions may consider include things like, where our best opportunities to make a difference on this issue?

Or, how can we go about finding solutions – defining solutions to this problem together? Why questions would be used with a bit of caution, because sometimes they can be interpreted as oppositional or argumentative. So, instead when a white question pops into my head, I try to think of ways to rephrase it in a more curious manner.

For instance, a question like, "why aren't more resources allocated for rental assistance across the country?" Might set the conversation on a course of judgment or blame. So, instead, something like, "what are the most effective ways we can support access to affordable rental housing?" Might be a little bit better.

Asking other questions is not particularly difficult to grasp. But, it is certainly one that improves over time with practice. It is hard to think of it as a steering wheel, good, thoughtful, and well-placed open question can get us where we need to go. It can also get the conversation got back on track, should it veer in a direction do not want it to.

Finally... It is pretty easy to get tripped up because not being able to anticipate our next response can produce anxiety. But, when you think back to the overarching goals of these meetings, sharing, collaboration, conveying and gathering information, next steps get a little fear. We want to pay attention, listen in earnest, and then actively demonstrate to the folks across the table that we heard what they said.

Affirmations are a great way to signal this acknowledgment. Very simply, they are highlighting their strengths, their positive efforts, they are articulating values and get intentions. Essentially, we want to give credit where credit is due. Next slide, please.

Now, ideally, you have done some backrub research before this meeting, both on the issue and on your member -- on your member of Congress. This will provide us with what we need here. On the slide includes a recording of the new training house hosted by our new Regional Coordinator come Allison Gallaher.... Along with a comprehensive resource list that is very useful, please do check this out in preparation for any set the agenda meeting.

It is good to have at least one affirmation prepared before your meeting. The first place we really should be sourcing these, is the congressional scorecard. When and where did our members of Congress vote, or otherwise take action, the lines up with our policy priorities. You want to put a spotlight on those actions and say thank you, encourage the continuation of those actions and also build...

For example, you might say something like, "Congressman, your... Requesting \$1 billion in funding for tuberculosis. At USAID was critical and much appreciated. This kind of leadership is what we need in global health." Some of those who have numbers in Congress with no record of support and possibly only opposition to policy priorities, there are other sources of affirmation.

Those include newspaper, radio, other local media outlets, news alerts, that you might find their simple Internet search. The members websites. There calendar. Any newsletters that you find -- signed up for. At any social media profiles you have that they might follow. Reading through those emails or lobbying reports from previous meetings will also be key here.

So, another example for you from these sources, you might say, you know, Senator, I follow you on

twitter. I find it so refreshing that you spent so much time back at home these past few weeks visiting schools all over the state and encouraging the education and leadership of young people. The well-being and the success of children is obviously the big priority for you!

Just some quick examples. All affirmations are great way, if you happen to catch your member of Congress in a hallway, or in an elevator, let's say, while you are lobbying on the Hill, and affirmation is also a great way to get their attention. It kind of start a conversation on the fly. -- And.

There are more concrete ways to it gauge our -- engagement through online singing. Sara will follow those techniques, reflection, and summaries.

SARAH LEONE:

Wonderful, thank you Joanna for that wonderful sort of explanation of our first few tenants. So, I will run through these a little Dutchman very briefly. I want you all to have as much time in your breakout rooms as possible.

Our third technique or tenet of OARS the technique is with flexion both of you will reflect -- beer affecting both their thoughts and feelings both stated and implied. So, tone is critical when you are reflecting back!

You want to treat the policymaker with compassion and acceptance and you want to seek to partner with them and evoke their own change talk. So, change talk is been sort of saying, going back to that cognitive dissonance. Essentially, when their beliefs do not line up with what they are doing. That changed talk help them move closer and closer to where we want them to be.

So, an example of reflection can be, "when you said that you value the child tax credits, it reminded me of the value and the importance of our ability to be able to feed our children. And you ask, why come and see." It doubled up the conversation a bit more because you are basically rephrasing what they said. It gives them an opportunity to correct you are maybe change their mind in that moment.

Like, when he reflected back, maybe say, "oh, I either thinking maybe I do not want that to come across. Maybe that is not what I want." And I will go on to our next slide.

Lastly, our last tenants of OARS is just summarize. It is reviewing what has been said, capturing where we are going, and why. So, to summarize, I understand that the representative is a really champion of the child tax credits, it sounds like you were headed in the direction of supporting policies that align with results as believed. Does that sound about right?

So essentially, everything that has been said, this is my note taking is really important in these meetings. You're reflecting it back. So, you will going to want to let the policymaker know you are listening and understanding. And then allow the policymaker to hear their own motivations and their ambivalence. So, maybe you reflected that perfectly -- back perfectly what you said, you may have a problem with it because they are experiencing that cognitive dissonance.

Where what they believe and what they have done, or what they are doing, do not align. So, we will go off into our breakout rooms to practice using the OARS technique. Do not break, we will drop a link into the chat that you can take into the breakout rooms with you that give just explanations of each.

So, extractions for the breakout rooms. -- Instructions. We will have you write and cropped one sentence using any of the techniques within OARS that you will use within your meetings within your members of Congress. He wanted to be creative and purple -- personalize it to your member of Congress. Use any research you have already done on determining how to proceed. So, with that, I will go ahead and have... Excuse me, I will have my colleagues put everyone into breakout rooms. There will be four folks to a room.

(Captioner was assigned to Breakout Room 14)

JOANNA DISTAFANO:

I hope your time together was productive and that practice together helped illustrate some of these concepts. If you like to share, please drop some of the open questions you came up with in the chat. Let's talk about wrapping up these meetings effectively.

There is a few things to do to ensure the effectiveness of those experiences. We do not want to go through the debrief process, this is critical for two reasons. The first is very simple, confirm with everyone heard so that the impression of the meeting of the group is clear. If there are any inconsistencies, we want to jump in with those before mapping out our next steps, including filing our lobby reports. The second has to do with making his experiences a continual learning process.

Again, we want to pay attention not only to the things that happened, but also about what we felt throughout the meeting. This is time to turn Motivational Interviewing inward and ask some open questions of ourselves. What went well? And what felt empowering? What did not?

How did what we were expanding impact her actions and why was that? How can we make this matter! Better next time. This will select a practice of being able to connect our cognitive and emotional learning, what we know, and what we feel, is a good habit to a form that reinforces our resiliency. It reminds us that our ongoing target is progress.

Not perfection. It is my hope for all the stroke is meeting with members of Congress that we are able to connect with that renewed sense of empowerment, both individually and among our groups. It seems though that things are not quite fitting that note for you, please reach out to any of us on the grassroots impact seem from resourcing and coaching through the rough spots. After that, let me turn this over to my colleagues, Lisa Marchal for some announcements.

LISA MARCHAL:

Hi, I am Lisa. As mentioned, I am in Indianapolis. Thanks for that great engagement! Very thought-provoking and really going to enrich our work with the set the agenda campaign. I want to mention again, they mentioned at the top of the webinar, our group planning process.

And why. What does it have to do with our announcements? Well, also, related to Sarah's framing of motivational interviewing techniques, thinking about our commitment to dismantling oppression.

In all ways. So, how does this all come together? Well, when we are doing, you know, when we are doing our advocacy, we are engaging with that tough stuff. We are engaging with those tough oppression realities and working through them. Well, in the group planning process, we are thinking about, how do we equip ourselves to engage and live into our common values around anti-oppression, diversity, and inclusion?

So, you may have noticed in the group planning process, some questions regarding how your group will hold up anti-oppression values that we are committed to. Next slide, please.

We learn from our grassroots audit and summary, our anti-oppression audits grassroots summary in 2020 when that we need to enhance our learning, understanding, and embodiment of anti-oppression values and we need to facilitate online learning to meet the need.

Now, 342 of you completed anti-oppression workshop that included maybe the diversity and inclusion 101 workshop, interrupting micro aggressions, creating space for difficult conversations, phenomenal start! But, we want to keep going. We want to level up. Both in general participation and in the depth of topics that we are going to be able to cover.

If you go to the next slide, you will not want to miss what we have on deck. Now, if you missed diversity and inclusion 101 opportunities, in 2022, there is an upcoming opportunity on February 23, mentioned in the slide, and another one on May 23 mentioned in the slide. And we will continue to promote these things in our events calendar and in the weekly update.

Next slide, please. Then, we will level up and explore even more kind of the 201 style deeper topics, structural racism, will appear in March. Oppression, the missing perspectives, will appear in April. And disrupting biases on poverty and classism will appear in May.

To describe what we're talking about, I will head over -- had over the microphone to Dr. Christina Gunther... To help with these webinars. Doctor Gunther, are you there?

DR. CHRISTINA GUNTHER:

I sure am, thanks so much, Lisa. It really was wonderful last year, the one-to-one workshops and everyone who attended. I encourage everyone who did not attend, were not able to, consider joining us on February 23. For the 101 level again in May.

If you already attended, come on back! If you are interested, we can always learn new things from old material. But, as Lisa said, we will level up. The trainings and we will dig deeper into anti-oppression, as we all know. We cannot end poverty without ending oppression, which often occurs in structural racism.

We have to end the narrative in our country over individual racism. And really focus on structural

racism and oppression. So, we are prepared to take a deeper dive into reflective learning to understand our social structures. Look more into white privilege and stereotypes in the US. And disrupt our own biases and focus on more actions that we can take.

Also, how we can teach our congresspeople about what we are learning. Because we cannot assume they understand. Structural oppression. And if we want to make true change, we need to teach them about it. And then I am really excited that we will culminate in a simulation of a tribunal based on residential segregation and then environmental racism.

Everyone will be asked to participate in different roles and we will really take a look at how redlining is still really affecting low income communities. Impoverished communities. And what we need to do about that. So, you might be thinking, "hey, what is this white, healthy looking, able-bodied women know about all of this oppressed groups?" Well, come on in to one of the workshops.

I will share my story and let you know what my lived experience is and what I know. And if you are hesitant about joining, just come on in and observe. That is fine, too. Thank you for your kind comments there.

So, thank you. There will be a link dropped in the chat, I believe. So, you can go look at more information on the results website and sign up.

LISA MARCHAL:

To get so much for that! To your leadership and work, and thanks for everyone for joining in on this. With that, I will headed over to my colleague, Sara.

SARAH LEONE:

You, wonderful, thank you everyone! For all of the amazing work that you are doing for the results grassroots and for the entire network. Our anti-oppression network is vital for our goal to ending poverty worldwide. Frankie, we cannot do it without talking about those systemic issues. Like just previously mentioned, the January webinar, we outlined four goals for the site the agenda campaign.

Planning, organizing, advocacy, and mobilizing. Just ran through the first three and then I will review the last one, mobilizing. Which, I think I have an invested interest in this.

So, what is mobilizing at it simple to this definition, it means to organize and prepare for something, such as a group of people for a purpose.

Our purpose is to end poverty. We want you to activate the greater congeries within your state. We want you to mobilize them. So, what falls under mobilizing? That is our action networks, activity partners, etc. So, what is action network? Essentially, is a loosely organized pool of locally based advocates and supporters referred to as members. These members take actions twice a month or more to support current results efforts.

There organized and supported by the amazing, fantastic, action network managers! If you know of a

manager, just think them. They do a lot!! Thank them. Additionally, at the start, the member does not have to be regular volunteer, but this may change over time, depending how much time and energy gets put into coaching them.

So, your groups action managers and power debate people in your community and even state to write letters to their members of Congress. And the media, on behalf of our result issues.

So again, how does this tie into the goals of the set the agenda campaign? Our action networks help us grow our groups. Which then grow as our correctional coverage across the country. -- Congressional coverage. I want to give an example of the fantastic Western Colorado groups ran by Andy Clark. For instance, to cover Francis -- for district within their state. When you take into account the action members, the cover an additional two districts just based off the members within their network.

Those people within those networks are also willing and able to take action specific to that member of Congress as well. But, they did that because of Andy's leadership and his coaching and his empowerment of them.

When you have those two additional districts taking action, you are slowly adding coverage to our chart that we keep. Which puts us closer and closer to achieving our goal of ending poverty. Lastly, some of these folks within your network might decide to become part of your group after attending a meeting with the member of Congress in solidarity. Again, wanting to invite everyone to these meetings.

Within the set the agenda campaign. Her action network members, -- for action network members, we want them to be there in solidarity, they do not have to say anything, they do not have to prepare anything, they are just there as a constituent wanting to participate in their civic duty.

Most importantly, it allows our action networks in our managers to get into the community that they live in, which also informs how they advocate. So, I will stop there if you want more information on action networks or how they fit into our overall greater strategy, I could talk but this for hours!

Let me know. My email address is... And myself or one of my colleagues will put it in the chat. With that, I am passing it over to my colleague Lisa Marchal to cover up – my clothes at the Grassroots Cafe.

LISA MARCHAL:

Is, before we go to the vital information on our policy team, we want to make sure that you know that on the sides and on the event calendar on the website, it is a world vast menu of things you take advantage of. We do not want to miss highlighting Thursday, February 9.

The grassroots board members Town Hall. You are invited to discuss, what does the board do? And how do leaders make change within results. Next slide, please. Remember that the federal policy forms are Thursday, February 16.

Next slide. Partner organizations are meeting this month, the return piece color is my core volunteers and remember women rise, and you can move through the rest of the slides very slowly and let people know what we have on tap. Again, events calendar and weekly update will be your guide to all sorts of office hours and other learning opportunities.

So, now we are going to be moving the conversation to the policy work that you all are doing. And we cannot emphasize enough that the work we are doing, not just as more season advocates, but really having newer voices at the table. Sharing the expertise, gracing us with their lived experience, when they choose.

And also, their enthusiasm and skill. It is absolutely fantastic! And we are making a difference in the set the agenda campaign. Everyone does not have to be a policy network! Sharing your values and) of these issues is so vital.

Keeping that in mind, it is really my pleasure to introduce you to come if you have not met her before, a colleague, Katie Fleischer, Katie works on our policy team and will be talking to us about our global poverty campaigns. Katie?

KATIE FLEISCHER:

Thanks, Lisa. Can you hear me alright? -- Thanks.

LISA MARCHAL:

Clearly, go ahead.

KATIE FLEISCHER:

Hi, everyone. I'm so excited to be here today! This is my first ever national webinar I am speaking on. It is great to hear all of the amazing presentations for my coworkers. My name is Katie Fleischer, I use she and they pronounced, I am in advocacy... On the... Today I will be leading our policy and setting some information about our city agenda campaign and the season. Our key global campaign the spring, focuses on appropriations.

That is the process Congress goes through every single year to decide how our government money is spent. So, they decide how much to allocate across all areas of government funding. So, transit, defense, but at results, -- results Mike, beer really focused on the foreign aid project. Our global health and education priorities. This can be a pretty messy process on Capitol Hill.

But year after year, we see that when grassroots advocates get involved on the way and, it has an enormous impact on this process! Next slide. So, we have put together some specific line by line funding requests. And there are many ways that you can influence the process and get these funding requests in front of your members of Congress. So, when Ray is meeting with them, explaining are asks, and asking them to wait in directly with the Appropriations Committee that rights the foreign a spending bill.

So, that is why he said the event -- set the agenda meetings are so important. Next slide. And then, there we go.

Also every year, beget groups of members of Congress to sign on to dear colleague letter. That essentially make it clear that this issue is a priority for them. So, that is how ever sick of them or of Congress can influence the appropriate process. Even if they are not the specific Appropriations Committee. So, our work in setting the agenda can have such an enormous impact on this. Next slide.

So, here is some more ways that elements of Congress can elevate our request. So, the Appropriations Committee and the house and the Senate are where our final decisions are made. In particular, the state informed alkylation subcommittee, sFox who have control over foreign aid. But, every congressional office can submit the request to that Appropriations Committee.

Either just as an individual, or by sending it onto dear colleague letter. And you can go ahead and click through, I think, the next few bullet points. And next slide.

If so, you can submit these requests to these -- to the Xbox committee. Either by setting out to dear colleagues, are based on -- sfox... More details about the dear colleague letter's will be on our website very, very soon. I can actually help you fill out those member forms on our website.

So, definitely reject me if you need support on that. And then for champions on our issues, or if you think your member could be a champion and you want to move them up to champion scale, you can also ask them to testify during member state, which is when non-committee members have the opportunity to kind of make their case for issues that they support.

Next slide. But, if your members are on sfox, they will have a lot of control over issues. These are the current leaders of sfox...

We have tuberculosis epidemic. And then preventable and maternal child deaths. So, for step, we have -- for step... This is an equity issue...

Month-long drug regimens that are difficult to maintain. That disrupts people's abilities to work and provide for their families. On top of the costs for receiving treatment. Apologies.

In our work this year, we will be working for the funding for the global fund as well as bilateral funding for TB. Next slide. Next we have ending and preventing maternal and child deaths. In 20 2011, 5 million children under the age of five and 300,000 pregnant people died, most note from preventable causes. This is a really critical issue.

One of the best ways we can support this issue is supporting increased funding through topline maternal child health account. As well as specific funding for the vaccine alliance. As well as nutrition.

So, the topline account focuses on impacts around interventions like healthcare, having tenants at birds. As treating diseases like pneumonia and diarrhea. -- And.

Supporting childhood immunizations. That prevent those diseases. And then the specific nutrition funding is important because it goes beyond access to food. It can support specific populations that have specific nutritional needs. Through interventions like prenatal vitamins, breast-feeding support, vitamin A, and treating malnutrition.

Next slide. And spend our last major focus is access to basic education. Especially foundational literacy... Apologies, I was sick earlier this week, as you can see, it is still in my voice a little bit.

But, we know that education is really key to ending poverty. And due to COVID, this is a really critical issue right now. Because we have seen that because of disruptions to education, 70% of 10-year-old in low and middle income countries are not able to receive a simple text. This will make it extremely come -- difficult for them to escape poverty or support their families in the future. So, we really need to ask now in support both topline funding for international basic education, and also funding for the global partnerships -- partnership for education.

Next slide. So, here are asks for the next year of our budget. Fiscal year 2024. Last webinar, we kind of saw the increases in the FY 23 bills. As you can see, we have increases in all of our priority accounts. We have ambitious asks for this year as well.

So, for TB, we are asking for 2 billion for the global fund. 1 billion for USAID tuberculosis. For maternal and Child health, the tublin account, we are asking for 120 fund -- 121 \$5 billion of which account will account 340 millions Pacific lever Davi.

And then the 350 for nutrition. For education, tublin account, one \$0.15 billion, of which underneath that, would be 200 million for the Goble partnership for education. I know this is a lot of information, but we have really detailed resources about all of these policy issues and all of these asks on her set the agenda page.

So, you can find more details there. Next slide. Finally, I want to give a quick update on our global legislation as well. So, these bills are related to probes, because instead of being about part of how much money we are asking for, this is about how we would spend that money.

So, many of you will remember the readout that we worked on last year. We can really, really close to passing both of these bills. That both made it through committee. But, did not end up passing Congress before the end of the congressional session. But, because they made it through committee, we prove that with they have bipartisan support. So, that sets us up really well to reintroduce and get them past this year.

So, the readout has actually already been reintroduced, just amazing! Superquick! And (indiscernible) will be introduced very soon. Both of these bills have bipartisan leads. Which is really important, especially because of the split Congress we have now.

So, we have been doing a lot of the behind-the-scenes work to get these bills introduced as soon as

possible. So, we will definitely keep you updated on the progress of these bills and encourage you to ask you remember the Congress to sign on as cosponsors.

One final reminder, if you are working on getting our meeting scheduled for set the agenda, followed with me directly, to help you get lobby prep schedule, I will drop my email and the target. I look forward to hearing from you. There is the pulse the team was looking forward to doing that, to help you tailor these acts to your specific numbers of Congress. So, I really appreciate your time today, I know it through a lot of information at you. Again, set the agenda -- check this at the agenda page for more resources and information.

I will hit it over to my colleague Michael.

SPEAKER:

Thanks, Katie. Hello, everyone!... I am based in Washington, DC. Where it is only 20° today. So, it is warm out there. I will take this opportunity to remind us of her overarching priorities for our focus on achievement with economic justice through the tax code, as Joanne talked about earlier today. The blazing to ensure the tax code prioritizes families with children, mentors, and reduce poverty.

Imagine for a second, a world where our global tax code is written. Think of what that would look like for you and our society. And right now, there are two policy priorities that MC would be instrumental to this goal. That is the extension of the type -- child tax credit and this new concept that we have talked about earlier, ventral tax credit. Next slide, please. Before we get to ask and policy priorities, it is really important to give you context about the current state of play on the hill. As Katie had mentioned earlier, we have the new divided Congress.

What I mean by this, as we have a house of representatives like the speaker of Kevin McCarthy from California and has her publicans it we have the Senate that is led by Majority Leader trap shooter from New York and send her (indiscernible). So, different priorities and different approaches to govern. As a reminder, last year, Democrats are potent – Mike controlled both chambers, both Senate and the house and it was moved largely in a partisan... This is why Democrats can move some policies on the partyline vote.

But, we need majorities in both chambers to align with our priorities. As such, bipartisanship will be key this year. We need all of you, and I mean all of you, to work with your members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, Republican and Democrat, in both chambers. We will need at least 60 votes on the Senate and 200 retained out of the 445 vote in the house for any bill to come to President -- President Biden's desks. This is deplorable to be willing to clear for any future legislation to move forward.

What we know from any Republican-led house, is that its priorities are focused on oversight, so holding the government accountable. Spending cuts, and taxes. That is right, taxes!

We see an opportunity here to shape that. That is where you can help set the agenda. Right? Of course, the economy will remain in the hands of lawmakers, so it is really important to be talking about that when you meet with your members. And there are other dynamics on the form that you should be

mindful of. Including possible cuts to antipoverty programs at large. By elevating our issues in front of our members of Congress. You're also setting the message that these things matter to us and that you should not mess around with policies -- you should misread with policies about poverty...

-- Mess around. Next slide. Let's get clear on that. With the text child credit,... Committees. And leadership to expand the child tax credit with monthly payments prioritizing the lowest income families and any tax legislation. The Senate financing house waiting these committees are powerful committees.

Were congressional tax policies and priorities are introduced, shapes, and debated. At a provision before it goes to the four -- vote in each chamber. The CDC has evolved over time. We watched the CTC to help more people, because we know that when it was expanded and developed during the pandemic, it lifted millions out of poverty. When it expired, those people, and many more, slipped back into poverty. To know more about its past and where it is now, we will have an updated CDC policy brief on our resources page in the next few days.

It should be for February, 2023. The efficacy approach between the CTC and the tax credit are different. Even if there is overlap between the two policies, not just in terms of the goals we want to achieve, but who it can help, these policies can help. The CTC is already federal law and we are looking at opportunities to improve and expand it. Especially since -- since it leaves out 19 million children in the lowest income families. While building support for permanent policy change. On the other hand, there is...

We are working on it. Right? This is a relatively new concept. Under the tax credit, we want you to first urge yourself to read the policy brief to get more information about how this is. In addition, to do their own research, and tax policies that help lower income renters. And to meet directly with constituents struggling to -- struggling with rent costs to discuss policy solutions. We are updating the brief so you can try that with your lawmakers and help them start thinking about what this would look like. There is one back on there for you but you can...

The February update should be up shortly. One of the updates this year, Excimer states, considering similar type of text mechanism in their state codes to provide relief to renters. In Oregon, and orchid legislation for example, publicans get Senator... Sponsoring Senate Bill 345, which would create a renter tax reduction in the state of... Similar to what homeowners receive. Likewise, California state Republican lawmakers are making a push to increase the states existing Mentor tax credit. So, what this all tells you, is that actually figuring this out under -- on their own.

And how powerful the tax code can be and have -- helping struggling renters and sing them out of poverty. So come as a note, there already existing renter tax credits and legislators have been led by Democrats and Republicans. So, we know this gets bipartisan support. We have a chart of all of the renter tax credits in the state that you can share with your members on this at the agenda campaign page. Please feel -- make sure to check that out. I am sorry, next slide, please.

As you begin your meetings with your members of Congress a couple of tics and ideas as you prepare

for them. We talked about this earlier. But, be sure to check out how to effectively talk to your lawmakers about renter tax credit. It also applies to our CTC asks. There are three things that you have to keep in mind.

Just based on the slide here. Right? First, share your story. It is even more powerful than the data. So, make sure you share your own perspective and experience. Sharing data is helpful, it is most -- what is most effective first party Congress... Do not let Congress walk away and start your session misinterpreting the current state of affairs for their citizens.

It is one thing to say that there is still a crisis, right? On its own, it is a conclusory statements. It is another truck should procure lawmakers that there is a crisis using your own voice, her own truth. Your own story, in your own perspective.

The second tip I have on this is, to remember that the diversity needs of their constituents. There is no one size fits all solution to the housing crisis. We have new options now. We have diverse housing moves and director tax credits come into a larger stent, the child tax credit. There is a large solution to meet on... There are different ways to care for and raise children in different ways those costs can be manifested. The king about the CTC here for a second. -- Thinking.

Third part I want to make about this point of sharing your story, let Congress know that the child tax credit can help prevent homelessness and an ounce of prevention is worth... These policies help families with children, whether high costs of raising kids, especially in this economy.

The second main point is a picture, so you can go back to the earlier slide, to get clarity. You can use that for future reference. But, now that you have set the stage -- Mike set the stage for what the problems are, you have met Congress to address, it is time to discuss the idea for a potential solution. That is the child tax credit and the renter tax credit part of it. I note on this, we cannot leave poverty...

Poverty in a vacuum. How poverty impacts the lives of everyday people is more like a spectrum. Right? There are people living in extreme poverty and you are in extremely vulnerable. Just as delivery have -- lived reality of poverty is a spectrum, so must be a mechanism to combat it. He policies legions not that not only empower folks negotiate poverty to change their circumstances, but prevent people from falling into their -- the grips of poverty in the first place.

Next. Get information from your lawmakers and show that with her network and with your results staff. Make sure you leave time for this. I cannot emphasize this enough. It can be tricky because I know stated meetings last 30 minutes, but it is important to know how they react by your members to react to what you're saying. Otherwise, there is no way be contractors further with the office or find them ways to hold them accountable for their positions on our issues. You can anticipate some questions policymakers might have about all this.

We have resources for this, too. In some cases, you may find pushback, you know, we have a new outpost under the CDC that can help you navigate. -- CTC. Navigate that. And by our colleague, David. To help you with your conversations.

One of the key takeaways from today's webinar is that, our advocacy will intensify in the coming months. We need a really solid foundation and ground to stand on. So, do not rush things. As tempting as that may be, take your time. This starts with educating our members on the needs of the constituents to educate them about the ongoing crisis. And building a relationship where policymakers understand. You want to create a record that says, "we explained to them what that crisis is."

And we need to put our priorities under radar. Doing so will really help us later to hold them accountable. Another thing to keep in mind, I know we like to run ourselves on our anti-oppression values, and I want us to intentionally revisit this. I want to remind you of the -- that the tax advocacy space has traditionally been occupied by those who push for benefits for wealthy individuals. Incorporations.

It was not a space built for us. Right? We are seeking to change that. We want to be part of that table. That is why your voice matters. So, we have a few in his left to talk about policy. But, I want to turn it over to my wonderful quality – my colleague Meredith. Some announcements. So, Meredith, the floor is yours.

While she is, you know, after head over to Meredith, if folks have any questions, feel free to put that in the chat. I'm happy to leave my email address so you can contact me after the webinar.

MEREDITH DODSON:

Agreed. Michael, you can hear me, right? Or someone verify, you can hear me?

KEN PATTERSON:

Yes, we can hear you.

MEREDITH DODSON:

There is a site if you want to use it or not. For folks might not met, my name is Meredith Dodson. I am the director of results US poverty policy work. I am based in Washington, DC.

So, I wanted to get on the webinar today. To let you all know that I am leaving the result staff after 24 phenomenal years! But really, it was -- it was not as much to tell you that, though I wanted to make sure that you heard it from me. But really, it is because I want to thank you all!

For the relentless advocacy, the conrod or read, the tears. Come -- camaraderie. The dancing. Everything that you all have done has been awe-inspiring!

And I literally feel like there is not a single day that results volunteers have not just knocked my socks offs in many ways. It has been amazing to partner with you over so many battles in the last couple of decades. It is kind of nice that we have a recent 46% reduction in child poverty as something that shows how phenomenal the work that you and others do.

What that can lead to. So, and you have pushed us to be a better organization. You have pushed me

to be a better human! And part of that is pushing us to become a bigger, stronger, organization. Also, become an organization and movement that addresses deeply entrenched and intersecting forms of oppression.

I very much hope all of that work continues. So, I am transitioning to a new role. As I told colleagues on staff this week, I am not going that far. I am joining the coalition on human needs, which is a close organizational partner. To be there senior director of public policy. So, my last day of result is February 15.

I hope that all of you, all of those I have learned with, grown with, celebrated with, mourned with, left with, karaoke myth, -- laughed with. And advocated with over the years, I hope you will not be strangers. Including if you want any company when you go to Capitol Hill.

So, thank you so much for all of the memories! And just appreciate everyone of you!

JOANNE CARTER:

Meredith, I will say what I said in writing a bit. It is always impossible to recapture the impact you have had in nearly 25 years. Also, just the perspective, fundamentally, you know, you've taken the result policy advocacy from us start a program from an idea of vision to forced to be truly recognized with that has had such an impact! I was so you figured out how to have the outside impact in the work that we do. You know, I still remember the media blitz.

On how to protect that program to, you know, really not just the last few years, the decade-long strategy of figuring out how result grassroots can have an outsized impact on the incredibly important tax child credit work. You know, it is culminated in the central world – micro we are playing in right now. It has been sort of clear seeing the messages from folks, and you know, the deep and sustained relationships and mentoring and learning, you know, that you have instilled over decades.

We have been talking about setting the agenda today. And I think you also supported literally hundreds and hundreds of volunteers to hold literally thousands of meetings. You know, built their own advocacy muscle. And the thing that I think people know that maybe do not see every day, is just the immensely high regard in which Meredith has also held by leaders across the US poverty advocacy space, which is why it is really exciting to think that the coalition of human needs.

Also, heal our allies and leaders and narrative, the regard and respect in which she is held by leaders also in the Fenderson unity. Has been truly transfer racial! To the relationship she has cultivated in her own capacity as a movement.

Meredith, you have built a really strong team with Michael Santos is, the director, and David plaster, and building important tax work and just saying to everyone, on the whole campaign team, as strongly to support this work.

So, Meredith, so it currently grateful to you! What you have made possible in the world and in results over these decades. I am glad we will continue to get to work with you. And your new euro. – Mike

your new role. Folks, we keep adding in the chat. We literally have two minutes. If a few folks would like to say something, please – Mike would love to hear from you. There is not enough time to hear from everyone, but we would love to hear from a couple folks, something really brief. Anyone?

Or if you want to raise your hand, we can unmute you. And then Dolores.

SPEAKER:

Can you hear me?

SPEAKER:

We can.

SPEAKER:

I wanted to say Meredith is the one that introduced me to results in the year of 2000. I really changed my life. Like, the entire course of my life. And all of the kiddos that I have mentored as -- you know, over the past 22 years.

There kind of like your grandkids. -- They are kind of like your grandkids and advocacy lineage. So, I know the impact is even bigger than just us. So, hugs, love, and thank you for everything!

JOANNE CARTER:

Thanks, Cynthia. Dolores?

SPEAKER:

Okay, can you hear me?

LISA MARCHAL:

!

JOANNE CARTER:

We can, yes.

SPEAKER:

Meredith, we love you. And I want everyone to know that one before we actually got into this level of fighting for justice and equality, you know, result has always done that. Been through the Rachel to was up when you came to Detroit that time and we start talking about inequities, narrative, we can always count on Meredith! To do the long, you know, what you call it?

You know, chart. Showing people the inequities of Jerez played a part. So, this is not anything new for her. She has been in the fight for a long time. I just want you to know that I personally appreciate that.

As those of us here in Detroit do. You know, I wish you the best in the future. And you will continue to be Meredith and doing that site. I'm going to miss you! Going to miss you a lot! So, congratulations! Well, not congratulations for us, you know. But, peace and blessings to you!

JOANNE CARTER:

Thanks so much, Dolores. And thank you. And David.

SPEAKER:

Yes, wow! I am realizing that I have been in results a bit longer than you have. I remember you coming in as a new staff person. And what you had really done was, you had been a source for results looking at domestic issues. We had looked at them so much before.

I want to say, (unknown name) was part of the -- was part of that. Possibly, your predecessor. And just thank you for your growth, your development, you have been a true leader. You will be moving to a new organization.

Committed to -- pretty much committed to the same things. So, thank you! And keep going!

JOANNE CARTER:

Sorry, it looks like we are at time. So, apologies. I'm trying to see if there any other hands up. Yes, sorry. So, I wish we could do! Can we take one more? Yes, please, if you have your hand up.

SPEAKER:

I will make it really brief, I apologize. I want to say, you, Meredith. We were just coming into this family, I would like to say, at this aircraft. And the great work they had done on the malnutrition. -- Malnutrition bill. We are seeing the application of his work. It also, the direction of this result as far as being a support to ending poverty. And really, really clearing for, really articulating, but these issues are and being (indiscernible) on it.

I want to say, we did not get a chance to spend all of the years with people, we look forward to you in your new position to build that relationship as you have built your relationship with results. We definitely want to take our hats off to you and all of the work you have done.

JOANNE CARTER:

Meredith, yes. More to come. I know people, Meredith is around until the 15th. She is right after that, but she is around on her results email to them. So, please feel free to she send a message in chair. Again, Meredith, really hard to capture all you have done.

Both of the world and in building results. And building relationships and mentoring, and in the vision you have had. And that you have driven both on US poverty but also on tackling racial and economic inequity.

So, it has been an honor to work with you. And thank you. We wish you the best. And for you to stay really close. So, thanks. Thanks, everyone, for your shares.

MEREDITH DODSON:

Thank you! I will just go for it. Michael, as adjusted in the chat, if people are game to -- I could have a

little visual reminder of a couple of decades on conference calls and exams if anyone wants to put on their video, we could remove the thing. And do one of the things we could -- have done for one of our virtual events. I would love a quick screenshots -- minor quick screenshot for folks you can stay on entity that real quick. I am trying to take off the spotlight, so it would be easier to do the gallery.

Look at all of these beautiful, amazing people. I will miss you. Please do not be strangers. --

SPEAKER:

Bye!

MEREDITH DODSON:

Yes, you can leave! Thank you, all. It is great to know so many of you.

KEN PATTERSON:

At that, again, I got a shot of about, 25 screen. So, I did get that, I will share that with you come Meredith. I do want to give everyone a chance to and use themselves and wish you well on your next endeavor and so, you should all be able to unmute yourselves.

(Multiple speakers)

SPEAKER:

Thank you Meredith!

SPEAKER:

You are a hero!

SPEAKER:

Bless you.

SPEAKER:

Bye!

SPEAKER:

Good luck!

SPEAKER:

Good luck, congratulations!

SPEAKER:

Keep up the karaoke! (Laughs)

SPEAKER:

I hope everyone coming to DC looks me up! I better be invited to Betty (unknown name)'s parties in the future.

SPEAKER:

They will drag you to the conference is still, too.

(Laughter)

SPEAKER:

You better be there!

SPEAKER:

I am in!

(Multiple speakers)

SPEAKER:

Such a wonderful community.

MEREDITH DODSON:

Yes, and such a privilege to be a part of it.

SPEAKER:

Great to see you, Kathleen.

SPEAKER:

Such a pretty boy, things for sharing him with us, Lindsay.

MEREDITH DODSON:

Action, she is still on the homepage. Irises is the...

SPEAKER:

The obvious inspiration!

MEREDITH DODSON:

She teased her brother that she is the only one of my children.

SPEAKER:

Okay (Laughs).

MEREDITH DODSON:

She likes the notoriety.

(Multiple speakers)

SPEAKER:

I really did... But 023.

MEREDITH DODSON:

Perfect! I sure that around. Anyone else, Lindsay, you remember what it is called?

SPEAKER:

Strolling funder.

MEREDITH DODSON:

They go to the capital and it is called strolling funder... Thank you, everyone. I feel very grateful for what you do hearing your stories and seeing your faces.

SPEAKER:

Thanks for your inspiration!

SPEAKER:

Meredith is still free on Saturdays.

(Laughter)

MEREDITH DODSON:

I have mom soccer coaching duty recently, so.

MEREDITH DODSON:

Alright, take care, everyone. I do not want to keep you all day.

KEN PATTERSON:

Have a great weekend, everyone. Thank you.

SPEAKER:

Congratulations!

SPEAKER:

Congratulations again!

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