**May 2023: RESULTS U.S. Poverty Policy Forum**

***Notes from the webinar chat***

00:13:37 Elizabeth Wilson: When do you leave, Roger?

00:21:23 Alicia Stromberg: UGHHHHHHH

00:21:35 Ken Patterson, RESULTS (he/him): best groan ever!

00:23:18 Doris Canaday: Doris from kansas City MO

00:23:32 Alicia Stromberg: welcome to everyone who has joined!

00:27:44 Alicia Stromberg: thanks for sharing your story gabe!

00:28:03 Gabe Hafemann: Reacted to "best groan ever!" with 😅

00:28:05 Gabe Hafemann: Reacted to "best groan ever!" with 😋

00:28:09 Sarah Izabel: Mostly ok

00:28:09 Kaylee Hamilton: Reacted to "Mostly ok" with 👍

00:28:18 Kaylee Hamilton: Reacted to "thanks for sharing y..." with 👍

00:28:23 Gabe Hafemann: Reacted to "thanks for sharing y..." with 👍

00:29:21 Zachary Godfrey: Too many tax expenditures for the wealthy, and highly exclusive (and elusive) credits and deductions for low-income taxpayers

00:29:29 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "Too many tax expendi..." with 🔥

00:29:30 Rishi Ahuja: Do we know if people who are eligible for these credits aware of them and using them?

00:29:36 Kaylee Hamilton: yeah, I'd agree with less or no taxing for seniors

00:29:45 Kaylee Hamilton: Reacted to "Do we know if people..." with 👍

00:31:16 Kathleen Duncan: Thanks for sharing gabe. Agreed Rishi - do we know if people who can benefit from these state credits, know about the credits.

00:31:21 Anmol Singh: It’s definitely a black box to me. I feel like I never took the time to understand it but I know it can be a source of inequality, especially here in America

00:32:10 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "It’s definitely a bl..." with 👍

00:32:14 Sarah Izabel: Yes. My federal credit is always present but state is not always

00:32:19 Kaylee Hamilton: Reacted to "It’s definitely a bl..." with 👍

00:32:55 Harriet Winokur: The computer tax programs will usually calculate the credits. But, in my experience, many people don’t know.

00:33:03 Alicia Stromberg: yep great point Michael, there will be gaps in knowledge since the tax system was not built to serve low-income communities

00:33:38 Doris Canaday: All great information to know

00:33:50 Michael Santos, RESULTS (he/him/his): Individual Taxpayer Identification Number

00:33:55 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "Individual Taxpayer ..." with 👍

00:34:01 Gabe Hafemann: Replying to "Individual Taxpayer ..."

Thank you!

00:34:42 Harriet Winokur: The VITA program and AARP Tax-Aide prepares taxes at no cost for low-to moderate income taxpayers and make sure they get eligible credits. Unfortunately many taxpayers aren’t aware they exist.

00:34:45 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "All great informatio..." with ❤️

00:35:03 Zachary Godfrey: The tax code is a little too complicated, as it stands, in my opinion. An effective tax system is supposed to be straight-forward and simple enough for everyone to follow. I studied personal finance in college and I still don't know everything...

00:35:08 Rishi Ahuja: Maybe the tax filing process should be reversed, rather than individuals filing taxes…IRS has all the information and should calculate taxes and send you a bill or refund…..

00:35:15 Michael Santos, RESULTS (he/him/his): And because the tax system was built not for low-income communities, it is "normal" that many people living in poverty are unaware or even afraid or intimidated, overwhelmed by the tax code.

00:35:22 Gabe Hafemann: Reacted to "And because the tax ..." with 💯

00:35:36 Michael Santos, RESULTS (he/him/his): But it shouldn't be that way, and this is the work that RESULTS is undertaking - making tax code sexy and accessible for everyone!

00:35:48 Alicia Stromberg: onto phase 2!

00:35:57 Zachary Godfrey: Reacted to "But it shouldn't be ..." with 🔥

00:36:00 Leslie Weinberg: I just sent letters about the Earned Income Tax Credit and a Rental Credit program. I am in Stamford CT, where some are very rich, and others struggle. All the helping programs should be saved.

00:36:15 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "I just sent letters ..." with 💯

00:36:41 Alicia Stromberg: Replying to "I just sent letters ..."

awesome to hear you have been writing about this leslie - good to see you

00:36:56 Michael Santos, RESULTS (he/him/his): Maybe the tax filing process should be reversed, rather than individuals filing taxes…IRS has all the information and should calculate taxes and send you a bill or refund…..

There's ongoing work for this Rishi!

00:36:58 Leslie Weinberg: How much of this can be handled in our States with Legislators?

00:37:28 Michael Santos, RESULTS (he/him/his): https://youtu.be/7ulFrH0wpOI

00:39:59 Dr. Werled Group: Reacted to "Maybe the tax filing..." with 👍🏾

00:40:43 Michael Santos, RESULTS (he/him/his): How much of this can be handled in our States with Legislators?

The states are always welcome to pass their own renter tax credits and other tax credits. And states do this all the time! There already are state-level renter tax credits, like Minnesota, as Gabe mentioned!

00:40:44 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "How much of this can..." with 👍

00:40:53 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "How much of this can..." with 👍

00:42:38 Randy Rosso: We’re getting a lot of pushback from hill staff on how this would effect housing supply and whether any research has backed this up

00:43:08 Michael Santos, RESULTS (he/him/his): Replying to "We’re getting a lot ..."

Yep! And we've asked academic partners to do some modeling and additional research!

00:43:23 Randy Rosso: Reacted to "Yep! And we've asked…" with ❤️

00:43:25 Gabe Hafemann: Reacted to "Yep! And we've asked..." with ❤️

00:43:26 Kaylee Hamilton: Reacted to "Yep! And we've asked..." with ❤️

00:43:32 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "Yep! And we've asked..." with ❤️

00:44:24 Ken Patterson, RESULTS (he/him): What would stop a bunch of landlords from raising rent in low-income communities knowing that many people in those communities will be receiving tax credits?

00:44:59 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "What would stop a bu..." with 👍

00:46:07 Leslie Weinberg: How can I unmute? Leslie

00:46:33 Alicia Stromberg: Replying to "How can I unmute? Le..."

the unmute button is in the left hand corner of the zoom menu in the bottom Leslye

00:48:00 Zachary Godfrey: Housing is an income-inelastic good, meaning that as the income of the renters goes up, the price increase is incremental due to housing being an necessity.

00:49:40 Dr. Werled Group: Funding for more programs needed for supporting communities.

00:49:46 Dr. Werled Group: Raising the poverty level

00:49:47 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "Funding for more pro..." with ❤️

00:49:49 Gabe Hafemann: Reacted to "Housing is an income..." with ❤️

00:50:05 Dr. Werled Group: Having more deciding power in ones life.

00:50:08 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "Having more deciding..." with ❤️

00:50:13 Alicia Stromberg: Replying to "Having more deciding..."

autonomy is everything!

00:50:15 Gabe Hafemann: Thank you Ken!

00:50:30 Dr. Werled Group: Replying to "Having more deciding..."

@Alicia Stromberg Exactly!!!

00:50:30 Kaylee Hamilton: I would be able to afford somewhere to live as I am living off of disability and live with my grandma trying to get through college, I would also be able to pay for my dream college

00:50:36 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "@Alicia Stromberg Ex..." with ❤️

00:50:48 Randy Rosso: Yeah I’ve told staffers that we support supply side solutions like LIHTC and building more, along with the RTC

00:50:59 Dr. Werled Group: Raising the quality of life with quality decisions.

00:51:08 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "Yeah I’ve told staff..." with ❤️

00:51:16 Gabe Hafemann: Reacted to "Having more deciding..." with ❤️

00:51:41 Ken Patterson, RESULTS (he/him): Would RTC be by tax payer or by address? How would shared rental space be figured?

00:51:45 Kaylee Hamilton: I would be able to afford my own place to live, my mom would also, and I would be able to go to my dream college I'm living off of disability right now and was raised in poor conditions

00:51:53 Gabe Hafemann: Feel free to reach out to me with questions and thoughts, too! I forgot to put it in the slide, but my contact information is ghafemann@results.org

00:51:54 Dr. Werled Group: Okay Michael we can make a call and find out.

00:51:57 Alicia Stromberg: i think the key with RTC is that it's relief we can offer \*right now\* while we continue to work towards long term solutions such as more affordable housing supply

00:52:09 Randy Rosso: Reacted to "i think the key with…" with ❤️

00:52:11 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "Feel free to reach o..." with ❤️

00:52:15 Leslie Weinberg: Replying to "How can I unmute? Le..."

Stamford is part of the Gold Coast of Fairfield County. Some have a great deal of money. Others struggle. The parents of Head Start children worked 2 part-time low-wage jobs, and still struggle. Others live in shelters or other agencies.

00:52:19 Alicia Stromberg: Reacted to "I would be able to a..." with ❤️

00:52:35 Alicia Stromberg: just heads up folks we have 3 min left!

00:53:18 Rishi Ahuja: if i understood correctly, if anyone is paying more than 30% of income in rent, federal govt. would cover the difference with RTC, right?

00:54:18 Kaylee Hamilton: Is the video you showed on the Results webpage? I would like to watch it again

00:54:31 Gabe Hafemann: Replying to "if i understood corr..."

The specific provisions are being developed in conversation with legislators and other advocacy organizations, but a key consideration is how it would affect rent burden.

00:54:39 Alicia Stromberg: Replying to "Is the video you sho..."

here you go Kaylee! https://youtu.be/7ulFrH0wpOI

00:54:44 Kaylee Hamilton: Replying to "Is the video you sho..."

thanks!

00:54:53 Alicia Stromberg: Replying to "Is the video you sho..."

you bet

00:55:39 Dr. Werled Group: Yes there is a cost count on how much a family is paying out in New York the problem is that agency, and corporations that Michael mentioned earlier pretend it doesn't exist. It is important to strengthen the community to make them accountable. Results definitely aids in giving the voice for representatives to hear the issues.

00:56:01 Ken Patterson, RESULTS (he/him): Some counties have programs to address property taxes for folks struggling—should check with city and county gov.

00:56:39 Rishi Ahuja: Thanks Gabe, we should consider guardrails so that the renter does not chose the most expensive house knowing the difference would be covered? Also there should be limits on income beyond which this benefit should NOT be available

00:57:26 Michael Santos, RESULTS (he/him/his): Replying to "Thanks Gabe, we shou..."

Absolutely. We also want to make sure that those who are living in luxury apartments do not get the tax credit.

00:57:30 Alicia Stromberg: https://form.jotform.com/RESULTSvolunteer/join

00:57:35 Gabe Hafemann: To reiterate, if you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. I dropped it in the chat above, but reach out to me at ghafemann@results.org!

00:57:49 Gabe Hafemann: Replying to "Thanks Gabe, we shou..."

There are a few means to combat fraud, like capping the benefit at certain incomes.

00:58:00 Sarah Izabel: Thank you