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MICHAEL SANTOS:
Hello, everyone. Welcome. The key for joining us today. I hope you are staying cool wherever you may be. -- Thank you for joining us today. Today we will kick us off with our US Poverty work and we will continue that with our Grassroots Cafe and we will switch over to talk about our global policy mark.

So for those of you who have not had a chance to meet yet, for the few of you who are new to RESULTS. My name is Michael Santos, and Associate Director for our poverty policy and I am based here in Washington, DC. So, just a reminder, especially for those of you who are new. We ground ourselves at RESULTS with our values. Now, not to go -- I will not go over our value statement. But we have plenty of resources, and please feel free to ask questions to any of our staff for joining us today.

Before introducing our wonderful guest speaker, I want to get everyone on the call context as to where we are at right now with U.S. Poverty Policy work. So, Congress is on recess. And while not be back until early September. If you do the math, there is only five months left in the year, and yet Congress still has a lot of work to do. So, time is really running out. Unfortunately, as Congress moves forward with various bills, including how to fund the federal government, we're hearing a lot of harmful rhetoric language and proposals to shrink and dismantle antipoverty programs.

Doing so would harm lots of people we are experiencing poverty, including children, young people, and families. We have been working on the Child Tax Credit for quite some time now. You are probably asking, "why are we still working on this? Why does this still matter?" A few things to mention before I transit into our guest speaker. Remember our ultimate goal is to achieve economic justice through the tax code. In working on the -- on the Child Tax Credit helped us get to that path. The problem we have with the CTC, or Child Tax Credit, now is that it's expanded version with the pandemic increase the amount of the credit.

And made available to those without incomes during the height of the pandemic has expired and now we are trying to bring some version of it back. More importantly, even with the current Child Tax Credit, many low income households are not getting the full credit. Because they do not make enough money.

That is just unfair, right? Our work on the Child Tax Credit will expend the number of low income families able to get that full credit. This speaks volumes about how our tax code treats people living in poverty. We want the tax code to be more accessible to poor people, because historically, it has only benefited or mostly benefited those who are wealthy and (Indiscernible). There is a possibility of a tax package before the end of the year.

We are not sure of the timeline just yet, but between when Congress returns in early September and the end of the year, there is a possibility of getting a tax package that includes some improvements to the Child Tax Credit. Some improvements or some expansion of the Child Tax Credit. That is why we need your help now. And why we need you to talk to your lawmakers about it. One way we can make this possible, is for constituents, such as yourselves, to highlight the importance of the Child Tax Credit. Remind makers why it matters and why they should push for it by for the end of the year.

It would also impact our work on housing and Renter Tax Credit. Because we will have a better understanding of how Congress reacts to proposals that make the tax code work, like actually work, and benefit people living in poverty. During recess, there are plenty of opportunities to push for the Child Tax Credit. Meeting directly with your lawmakers or using the media as a tool to raise awareness and hold your lawmakers accountable.

So, this is why I think it would be helpful to hear from one of the academic experts on the child tax credit. I want to introduce Sophie Collyer from Columbia Universityâ€¦ And social policy who will be providing us with some updates on the Child Tax Credit and give you some inspiration and ideas on what to talk about in the media, or with your lawmakers. Now, if she looks familiar, that is because she has been an attorney desk. She has appeared and spoke with some of you in the past about this important topic.

A quick reminder, if people have questions about the Child Tax Credit policy or for Sophie directly, please put those in the chat now and we will try to address them as you go along. Or if we have the time -- time at the end of our section. Huge thank you to David Plastererâ€¦ Who is monitoring the chat and hopefully can help answer some of the questions that we may have. So, Sophie, welcome back. I am glad to have you join us. The floor is yours.

SOPHIE COLLYER:
Thank you so much, I am so happy to be here. Yes, so, as Michael shared, I will speak about some findings about our work on the Child Tax Credit as well as some findings from other researchers. That you can use in your conversations to underscore why -- the importance of reforms to the CTC.

If we could advance, please. In 2021, child poverty in the United States received -- reached a low of 520%. 520% of children following below the supplemental threshold. Now this is still a high number, -- 5.2%.â€¦ Was five -- 12.5%. In 2009, it was 17%.

Now, that was a historic low in terms of child poverty rates in the United States. And I this report from the Census Bureau makes clear, the expansion to the Child Tax Credit in 2021 was explained a large part of this reduction.

Could you advance, please?

Now, excuse me, this coming September, the Census Bureau will now release poverty rates for 2022. And what we will likely see is a reversal of this trend, so instead of this downward sloping trajectory were child poverty rates are falling, we will likely see them rise. The reason is that the 2021 expansions the CTC is no longer in effect.

So, the benefits that has in terms of child poverty reduction will not be realized in 2022. We do not have evidence of this for 2021. Like, the entire year. For 2022 again. The center of poverty and social policy and is led by (Unknown Name), has developed something called the monthly poverty series. Here instead of tracking transient poverty from year to year, we look for month-to-month.

Just a bit of a background on that. When you think about a poverty measure, you're taking all resources and income within a calendar year. And measuring that against a poverty line or threshold for that year. In the monthly series, is at the monthly level. So, is all of these verses received within a month and against a monthly poverty line.

What we can see here, if we look on the figure on the right, the delivery of monthly CDC payments in 2021 -- CTC payments. The expanded CTC led to a significant drop of poverty rates immediately among children. On the right, when you look - just say no, the links all of these briefs are in the presentation, I can share all of them as well.

On the right, if you see with the expiration of the expanded CTC between December and January 2021 and then 2022, you see a sharp increase in the child poverty rate and that translates to more than 3 million children following below the poverty line. In January, 2022.

So, if this provides any indication of what happens when you pull back a policy like this, you will likely see a similar trend when he moved to the annual measures that will be released this September. -- You move. We will be able to look at 2022 poverty rates versus 2021. Can you advance, please?

The question is, we see this large reduction in child poverty in 2021. Associated with the expanded CTC. And then it goes away. So, we are not going to likely see this reduction in child poverty. So, why are families not receiving this expanded CTC anymore? What happened here?

The reason is, the expansion to the CTC under the American rescue plan of 2020 was temporary. It was just an effect for calendar year 2021. -- In effect. The current legislation that you guys are all talking about is an effort to expand that going forward.

In the absence of that expansion, the CDC that is on the books today actually follows the framework with the tax cuts and jobs act of 2017. Under this structure, families meet at least I might need at least 25â€¦ Two qualify for the credit at all. It phases and with earnings. You need to earn a certain amount in order to qualify for the full credit.

It also begins to phase out much higher earners. About 2200 for a single household. With dependence. And $400,000 for joint filers. Can you advance. This is what that looks like.

You will need $2500 in earnings to qualify for it at all. If you look at this graph, it shows one incomes from earnings on the horizontal axis.

And how much of the full CDC when qualifies for based on their earnings. Is the one accessing displayed by these lines. What you see is that, for a family of one child, which is the bottom line - and this is based on the 2018 tax code, we are updating these numbers, but it still is a similar structure.

But you needed $30,000 in income to qualify for the full CTC for one child. If you have one child. If you have more children, you need more to qualify for the full CTC and so on. So, for a family with four children, it wasâ€¦ So, this means that all families earning below these thresholds are not receiving the full CTC.

One question that we had, and you can see the lowest income families. And a question we had is, how many children fall into this group? That they are not receiving the full CTC because of the structure and the credit. And this is underscored under the work -- some work we have done prior to the CDC expansion. If you could advance, please.

So, we said, OK, I figured how many children are left behind by the structure. How many did not receive the full credit. That is what this analysis does. So, all the way on the right bar, you see statistics for all children. And the bottom 10%, that is 10% of children do not receive any CTC. Because of this earning structure. So, when in 10 children cannot receive anything from this -- one in 10 children. From the tax code because of the structure I just -- just described. 20% only receive a partial CTC because of the structured we just went over.

That translate into roughly one in three children who were ineligible for the full Child Tax Credit because her family income was not high enough to qualify. -- Their family income. Those who benefit from it the most were completely ineligible for the full credit.

Now, there are also groups who are disproportionately behind. It was more than half of Black children, nearly half of Latino childrenâ€¦ Joe -- families with young children. Children in rural areas.

And also children in larger families. We do not show that here, but as you can see, we needed more in income to qualify for the full credit each time. So, children in larger families are disproportionately left behind.

If you could advance. We also analyze this by state. So here, we look at the sheriff children left behind by state and as you can see, many southern states - more than 40% of children in the states do not receive the full CTC because of this connection to income and earnings.

I do not have this year, but we also have this by congressional district. We are updating those - we will update many of these results as new census data comes out. That might be useful in your efforts. As you think about whereâ€¦

If you could advance, please. So, what happened in 2021? Right? We have theâ€¦ Statistics I just showed you, to kind of reflect what was the lab for 2021 and what was the lot today. -- The law. So, what happened in 2021? There was this extension to the Child Tax Credit under the American rescue plan that expanded eligibility. So, all those children who were previously left behind and are today, became eligible for the full credit.

Also, it increased the payment and amounts. It went from $2000 per child to 20s --â€¦ And $3000 per child 6 to 17. And it allowed for the monthly delivery of payments.

These are also many of the components of many of the proposals to expand the CTC that are being (Indiscernible) today. So, what did that mean in terms of child poverty regimen and what did it mean for the children who were previously ineligible for the full credit?

Here we show the child poverty rate in 2021 for those children who are left behind. And those who were fully eligible for the CDC pre ARP. The dark blue bar is the child poverty rate if there is no tax credit. The second one, the mid blue color, as if the Child Tax Credit had not been expanded. It was the pre ARP CTC. In the light blue is with the ARP CTCA.

You can see that that expansion led to a sharp reduction in child poverty for those who were previously left behind. I did not do much for those fully eligible because the children who were fully eligible had very low poverty rates to begin with.

So, the benefits of this expansion disproportionately reach those children who were below the poverty line and who were left behind. With sharp reductions in poverty, that's kind of one of the big takeaways. What happens when you expand the CTC along these lines? Who see a sharp reduction in child poverty, and we expect the same today as we saw in 2020.

But there are also lots of other things we learned in 2021 about what happens when such a policy change like this occurs that could be useful in your conversations with legislators.

Policy director at our center, Megan Curran, who had this really amazing research â€“ resource called the research Roundup. She did it feel for the first six months of the CTC, what we learned at that point, and links here to those resources.

It covers what happened under the expansion in several different domains. So many people access to it? Did it reach every child who could benefit from it? How did it bolster family income? How did it affect poverty? Hunger? Stress? Implement, equity?

So there are a lot of things you can look at in here to discuss with anyone about how this expansion improved the well-being of families with kids. I will speak about two of them right now. I will speak about the results for hunger and food insecurity, and spending, because these are important in these conversations.

I also want to say, I won't dive too far into these results, but there is been a lot of examination into if this affected employment rates. Their parents move out of the labor force in response to these payments? There is no evidence of that based on the 2021 expansion. That is also an important point to know in these conversations, because that's something that can come up.

We saw a sharp reduction in poverty, but did that reduce food insecurity? Or families able to reduce â€“ improve their ability to access food? More able to access a sufficient diet? That's what these food insufficiency measures get at, and ask about sometimes or often not having enough food to eat in the past seven weeks.

This study, we used data from the Census household pulse survey to answer this question, and looked at rates of food insufficiency among houses with children and without before and after the delivery of the initial monthly payments.

What you can see it's for hustles without children, we see a 25% reduction in the rate of food insufficiency. Immediately.

You might be like, "Why do we have the hustles without children statistics there?"

-- They tell us this drop is a reduction seceded with the CTC ARP. It could be their general changes, and the economy and such that led to this reduction in food insufficiency and would have been expressed by everyone, but the fact we see no movement for houses without children and a sharp decline for those with, suggests this is a result of the CTC expansion.

This protection in food insufficiency was concentrated in houses with annual income below $35,000 per year. So sharp declines and immediate declines in food insufficiency among children.

Another question that comes up is what did families spend this on? This is something people really like to great stories. Instead of creating stories we decided to look at the data and see what happened in terms of family spending using data from the consumer expenditure survey. This was the data used to determine inflation rate, it is run by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and was in partnership with researchers at ELS.

Re-examined spending before and after the CTC payments, and tried to estimate per each hundred dollars in CTC family received, what did they spend it on?

Looked across several domains you see on the left side of this graft -- graph. Housing, food, clothing, etc. We found families were using this income for their basic needs.

We saw about $30 out of every hundred dollars was spent on housing. $27 out of every hundred dollars spent on food. We also looked, which will be on the next slide, child related goods and services. So overall, it was spending on housing, food, and kids.

There is a link to this paper, it was released a few weeks ago. I think this is a really important point about what this money helps families do.

There is also a point in the paper where we discussed how it helped families deal with rising cost and inflation. There is some evidence that there was both an increase in purchasing, so people were able to purchase more. For example, food, because of these payments. But also, as food prices were rising, they were able to afford that food and not have to reduce food consumption as a result. That was an interesting finding.

If we could advance.

Here we see there is an increase in child related spending as a result of these payments.

There is lots more to talk about in terms of what the CTC did, but I hope this provides an overview of useful findings that will be important for your discussions.

I want to summarize a few takeaways.

The first is that the 2021 expansion to the Child Tax Credit but to a historic decline in child poverty, but we will likely see a reversal of this trend is attender when the senses releases the 2022 poverty rates.

Why? Well it was temporary and is no longer in effect. The CTC that families were eligible for in 2022 was that that which was tied to earnings, meaning children in the lowest income families were ineligible for the full credit. That means it could not reach the families would benefit from it the most.

Happens when families who are currently eligible receive the full credit and the credit value increase as it was under the ARP? We see families use the payments to meet their basic needs, there were historical elections in poverty, and there was a sharp and immediate decline in food insecurity among many other improvements to well-being.

Thank you so much, and I look forward to the Q&A.

MICHAEL SANTOS:
Thanks Sophie.

I think we probably have time for one question from the audience, if anyone wants to unmute or put it into the chat. I think David is also answering some of the questions as we were going along, so that's great.

I'm not seeing any questions, but one thing I just wanted to uplift for those of you who were unable to see the chat, a couple questions came in from one of our wonderful volunteers.

Are the alternatives to the CTC families can use to offset the loss of CTC? And is there a logical reason Congress uses to exclude poor families from the tax credit?

Sophie I don't know if you have anything in particular you wanted to share, but I wanted to talk to our volunteers about strategy and some of the issues they may run into when they talk to their lawmakers about the Child Tax Credit.

I don't know if you have any specific answers to these questions, and just flagging for you if you have any at the moment.

SOPHIE COLLYER:
I think one thing that always comes to my mind when I think about the logic of this. This is the largest federal expenditure directly made on children under its current form. And it doesn't reach children in the lowest income families. The logic of that little bit hard to justify, and I think that there are ways in which...

I think we know how maybe perhaps power is affected, the structure of the CTC today. I always think about the spending and how much of it is going out of service credit and how it is not reaching those children.

MICHAEL SANTOS:
That's a great point.

(Multiple speakers)One of the things that trigger my head without question was asked about alternatives to the CTC, there are other programs. Antipoverty programs in existence. One of the things you should be aware of and one of the challenges in navigating for the CTC's it gets diluted when somebody's other poverty programs.

One of the reasons CTC is so important is because it essentially function this cash assistance. It provides families with a lot of -- flexibility. There are programs that prevent rules from people spending it like any other cash, whereas the CTC, if you're eligible, if you have children, you able to actually use that money however you see fit to actually raise the kids.

I think this is one of the reasons why Sophie was covering the impact of the CTC. So many metrics of well-being for children living in poverty.

I think there are a couple of questions in the chat, I'm hoping our senior policy assistant can help answer some of these questions. And Sophie, if you're kind of F2F you have some time, a few minutes here and there, we are happy to have you stay a few minutes just to answer some of the questions in the chat if you like.

SOPHIE COLLYER:
Sure.

MICHAEL SANTOS:
I want to move us along because we only have a few minutes left. Next slide.

Just to recap, we covered a lot of ground on the Child Tax Credit today but our main ask at the moment is to urge members of Congress to talk to the Senate Finance Committee, or the house Ways and Means Committee's, to include Child Tax Credit in any tax legislation this year.

For those of you who are new, these are the committees in Congress that are responsible drafting, or proposing legislation, any tax legislation. They make the call in terms of whether a Child Tax Credit proposal will be included in any of these tax legislation that could be considered between September and the end of the year.

Hopefully you found helpful some of these discussions of the Child Tax Credit. For me some of the key themes I gleaned from today's person Tatian are A, greater access to the tax credit. There is need for that. And really this opportunity to R2T up the importance of the Child Tax Credit in addition to all these other antipoverty programs are also very much needed to accomplish our mission of antipoverty.

And Sophie have mentioned, there's a new poverty data coming out the September, just around the same time school starts. Children, young people and families are going back to school, so something we wanted to alert you in the next few weeks, we will definitely have more information, have more data, as the new poverty data comes out in September.

With that in mind, I think we are going to close it out. I just want to say thank you to Sophie for running -- thank you to Sophie for joining us this afternoon on a Saturday. I want to pass it over to Sarah and Alisha to talk about our Grassroots Cafe.

SARAH LEONE:
Wonderful, thank you so much Michael.

Good afternoon everyone, my name is Sarah Leone, I'm Senior Associate on the Grassroots impact team here at RESULTS. You might recognize me if you're located in the Midwest on the West Coast, or if you are a new advocate, mentor, or action network manager which are both roles within the results groups I provide support to.

I'm excited to be here to speak with you all about our Advocacy 101 training on this call today, which will explain welcoming new people, and outreach for August Recess meetings.

Next slide please. Thank you.

So we are going to explain what the purposes of what August Recess meetings are and why they matter.

What is an August Recess meeting? During the month of August, US senators and Representative Smith leave Washington DC and actually travel to their home states and districts to begin a fast-paced schedule of constituent meetings, town halls, and other community events.

For those who attended our National Webinar in July, we actually had Neesha Suarez on Deputy Chief of Staff represent have Seth Moulton from Massachusetts. She was wonderful, if you have not had a chance to check out that recording, I highly encourage you to do so.

Her words were powerful. She said they come home because they want to meet with you. So that is why we highlight August Recess meetings as being such a great way to invite people to those meetings, but also to begin developing relationships with those in district offices. So, you might be wondering, what is sort of the goal of our August meeting?

I did explain a bit. Another part of that is to mobilize people from their communities to attend these five meetings during August. It also goes into the first week of September as well. So, why do we do this? Why is it important? We do this so we can demonstrate real people power whether Members of Congress by uplifting new voices from our community who are in support of our issues. Members of Congress keep attendance records at lobby meetings and this also helps RESULTS build a community-based of action takers.

I am curious, if you have lobbied with RESULTS during an August recess before, please let us know by putting one in the chat. Or a yes in the chat.

I'm curious to see how many of you have done so. We have Karyne who has participated in one, Nancy, we have a lot of people, love this. Keep it up. We will have some more prompt throughout this Grassroots Cafe. Love this! Wonderful! Lots of August Recess meetings happening in the past. Fantastic!

So, why do we do them? Again, you want to build relationships with that member of Congress is staffer. So, when you are meeting in district, these are different staff members you are meeting with then at the federal level when you're in DC. This is an additional opportunity for you to build out the relationships even further.

I found that when you're in district, there is that familiar homey feeling that you would not necessarily get in DC or via a virtual Live Meeting, in my personal opinion. Another reason why we do it is, what sometimes when we do not get answers from the DC office, we can leverage connections within the district offices themselves.

So, if you have not heard from the DC staff in a while, let's say it has been a week or so, have not heard back, you can email the district office and say, "hey, just wanted to let you know I have been trying to get a meeting, I was wondering if you would help me out?" I have had success with that, I know my colleague Alisha has had a success with that and many of my colleagues and advocates on the call as well. It kind of gives them a helpful place in the right direction.

Because again, they're getting a lot of requests and email throughout the day. Lastly, on this point, the Members of Congress will be in-state and is a chance to see them in person. When I was in college, I would go out of my way to try to attend Town Hall's. Luckily, I lived in a sort of medium-size college town where our senators would actually come to our universities and hold town halls there.

At that point, I have not built up the courage to raise my hand to ask a question. It was still such a great way to get your foot in the door and start to build up that relationship with them. Even if you just get a chance to speak with staff members after the Town Hall itself.

The work that you do in these meetings really helps us formate our policy requests, which in turn helps us chip away at the high rates of poverty that we have in this country and across the world.

So now I will talk about the basics of industry lobbying. So, for the sake of time, we chose what we felt were the most important tips dimension. However, if you feel as though we were missing any additional basics, please post them in the chat, we would love to know.

So, our goal is to build relationships with Members of Congress that will build influence over time. Not necessarily are always going to get a yes. Building these relationships take time. But do not fret, we often describe advocacy as a marathon, not a sprint. When I started out, it was really hard to get through my thick skull because I wanted yeses. Immediately after I asked, I am sure -- as I am sure a lot of us did and do.

It takes time A to build these relationships, but B to build that common ground, so you can build a value-based relationship with them. To go through symbols of the lobby meeting, the first one is, you will want to introduce the group as a resource. And proof that the community cares.

You are showing up in person to these meetings, and you're telling them, "we all live, we all pay taxes, we are all in this area, and we care for these things. Plus what that is powerful! Of hundreds of you all are doing this in states across the country, that is sending a message to Congress that we are not playing around. Ending poverty matters to us and it is not something that they are just carrying haphazardly, it has meeting.

Additionally, you'll want to educate on these issues and gather Intel about the office as well. So, what I mean by gathering Intel is, when I started out as an advocate, I would go and actually look up the legislative aide or director on LinkedIn. And see what their previous skills gets or if I knew -- skill sets. If I had a connection with them, and when time, I actually had -- one time I had a legislative director whose brother lived in the same dorm as I lived in in college. It was a very strange connection, but it helps build that bridge to where he felt more inclined to hear us out and was taking notes the entirety of the meeting. Lastly, the last goal that we have is just to get commitment on the request that we are asking.

If you are feeling like they're going to say no outright, try to find smaller pieces of the ask you can build up wrote the course of the meeting. If you do not get commitment, let them know, OK, we will follow back up with you in two weeks or however long to make sure that it landed on the representatives desk or the Senators desks and make sure they have all of the information they need.

Every lobby meeting has an agenda. Roles, and then hopefully, you all will practice beforehand. Or host a lobby prep session for any new advocates coming on board. We share the responsibilities advocates to enable volunteers and people from the community to do this work.

I wanted to share a great example within Washington state. So, they aren't fabulous state -- they are a fabulous data made up of nine results groups across the entirety of the state. They are a great example of folks who actually organize meetings with the district directors with both of their centers throughout the year. They're doing it in August, obviously. Throughout the year, they are trying to consistently build relationships with the in district offices.

They have done a fantastic job of doing that. Additionally, making sure that all of your new advocates some of the things you can do are feel prepared, ready, and empowered. Lastly, I want to add that if you have folks that you want to invite, maybe they're not 100% sure they want to attend, let them know that they do not necessarily have to speak, they can stand in solidarity with you and your other community members in those meetings.

I have another question for you. Do you have other basics or things you think are important? I would love for you to drop them in the chat.

Well, those are -- while those responses are coming in, I will go ahead and introduce someone I am very excited to introduce. Her name is Liz Brown. From North Carolina.

I will be sharing her experience of being invited to a lobby meeting by a very familiar RESULTS staff member, who most of you will recognize. So, Liz, I invite you to come off of mute and take it away.

LIZ BROWN:
Hey, all! I am so excited to be here with you all today to share a little bit about my experience with RESULTS this far and what it was like my first time lobbying. So, I joined RESULTS in January of this year. And then - when I reached out to RESULTS, I was looking for an organization that really focused on bringing change to people that suffer from poverty.

I personally have experience with living in poverty in childhood, so I know just how serious the short-term and long-term effects are of living in that type of environment.

So, it meant a lot to me to find an organization that also cared about that so much as well. So, I attended a couple of meetings in February just to observe. I did not really say anything because I was super nervous. Later in March, Ken asked me to join the meeting with representatives foxes office. I was so nervous. It was a -- it was my first time lobbying and I felt a little, a lot, underqualified. I was not sure what to say or how it would go or what to expect.

But they were very attentive and they listen to what we're going to say. When we were in the meeting. And you know, at the end, they asked insightful questions, which made it - made me feel better making me feel like they are actually listening and we built that personal connection.

And so, since then I have just been excited to continue lobbying and share my experience and share my personal experience with the Child Tax Credit from having children. And just going from there. Because they really do listen and knowing that they listen, just gives you a sense of hope. Because then you know that you are making a difference.

You know, you are helping people who cannot help themselves or do not really know how to help themselves, because you know, like myself, there at one point were they still think Congress members are too much -- two out of reach for most of us to access.

But we can, you know, share our story and hopefully bring change, so. Thanks!

SARAH LEONE:
Thank you so much, Liz. I will go ahead and turn it over to my colleague, Alicia.

ALICIA STROMBERG:
Hey, Liz. Thank you so much for joining and welcome to RESULTS. I just want to extend a warm welcome to anyone else you might be new on the line today. New volunteers, new lobbyists, welcome to RESULTS, we are so happy you are here in our movement. For those who may be not know me, my name is Alicia Stromberg. I am a senior grassroots expansion associate at RESULTS and I have the pleasure of getting people started in RESULTS advocates. I am all across the country. Today I will share a couple of best practices specific to in district lobby meetings.

So, as Sarah mentioned, building a relationship is one of the most important things we can do, especially during in district lobbying.

The staffers can help us with our future requests, or help us have another access point to remember of Congress. I would really focus on building your agendas to serve that for -- purpose. Build an exit time for introductions. Sure lots of testimonies from your experience in the community. Or sure how policy change could positively impact your life. -- Share. Here in the National Webinar last month that the district staff are people who are normally from your state. They know about your community, they have probably driven the same bridges as you, you may go to the same restaurants.

You probably have a lot of things in common with them. It is really easy to start that banter and discussion and get to know them as humans and let them get to know you as humans as well.

I know in the past, when things were really, really busy, in Congress and in DC, I would reach out to this district staff to get an access point to the member of Congress, or they would maybe escalate the request or talk to someone in the staff - talk to someone in the office on my behalf. It was really helpful and really critical at that time. Industries lobby meetings are also the perfect time to invite your community. We just heard Liz share her experience of being invited to attend a lobby meeting.

And being supported to attend. We heard how empowering it can be. This is a perfect opportunity to be inviting folks from the community. Community partners. Maybe people from your action networks, or any of the thousands of people that have reached out to RESULTS to learn more about volunteering for the last couple of years. It is a lot easier to get someone to lobby in their home state versus traveling all the way to DC to meet with Congress on the hill.

We really want to take - we really want to leverage this opportunity. Also, be persistent with your request. We learned that - we learned from Sarah, Members of Congress are literally in their home states in August. To meet with constituents and to be in communities. So, definitely be persistent on getting that face-to-face. Maybe you have a lobby meeting but with a staffer in a week but you can still follow-up at the office and asked if the member of Congress had any changes in their schedule, or if there were any openings that came up.

See if you can sneak in there and get a face-to-face. Do a cup -- this a couple of days before you meet. You never know when their schedules are going to change. They really are in their home states to meet with you. Finally, if you cannot meet with them in the office, definitely go and find them out in the community. They will be doing community events, may be Town Hall's like Sarah mentioned, I know when your I went to the Minnesota state fair and went and lobbied Senator Amy Clover shot on the Global fund to fight (Indiscernible) AIDS and malaria. You can find them in the community and have fun doing it, too.

Good luck with your lobby meetings this month. I cannot wait to hear how they go. A member, Congress works for you. The work we are doing is critical. Often times, RESULTS volunteers are some of the only people bringing issues of inequity to the attention of her Members of Congress and it is more important now than ever that they are hearing from us. Thank you for doing this and mobilizing your community and setting these meetings up. Because it is so, so important.

So now, I think we have time for some today. If anyone has questions -- Q and A. If anyone has questionsâ€¦ Please feel free to put them in the chat - live about three minutes for questions. So, if you have any questions, feel free to speak up.

I'm reading through the chat too.

KEN PATTERSON:
Alicia while we are waiting for questions to pop up, this is Ken Patterson, I want to remind folks this is the best opportunity to get in front of members of Congress. To get in with them in person. We didn't have a lot of folks going to Washington this year to see folks there, this is the best opportunity. They are in your home, -- their home, they are in their districts, interstates. They are doing site visits.

It is so much better to share your passion and stories directly with the members of Congress, then to count on the telephone basically to talk to a staff person who has to then relay your message to the number of Congress, who will relay it better? You are the staff person? You deftly want to take advantage of this time, request those meetings and if you can get in front of your members, go ahead and do it. If you can't get to know the district staff as well, that's a great relationship to have too.

ALICIA STORMBERG:
Thank you Ken for that, probably the biggest take away, this is the biggest time to meet with members of Congress, during the August Recess.

Michael I see your question about results mac, would you approach them as a nonpartisan represented of, we focus on the issues, so we are not coming in with any party affiliation, and that is how we can meet with every single one of our members of Congress, because we aren't party affiliated. We are focusing on the issues and policies we want to work on.

Awesome, thank you for listening and for attending our Advocacy 101. Now I will pass things over to Lesley who will share another update.

I think you're on mute still Lesley.

LESLEY REED:
Of course I am (Laughs).

Alright, so hi everyone. I am so thrilled to be here with you all today because it's been a really long time. Many of you may remember me from years ago, I was on staff, and I've been a long time volunteer. I've been back for about a year as the director of donor communication.

What you may not know is I first learned about results mac when I was invited to a small fundraiser by my local RESULTS group here in Washington state.

At the time, my husband and I were very low income, and we were actually relying on some of the social services that RESULTS advocates form.

Our money was quite tight, but I went to the fighters or because I was interested, someone invited me, and I was so moved by the stories those passionate RESULTS volunteers shared, and by RESULTS's mission, I was inspired to donate. I couldn't give much but I was assured that a small monthly donation was valuable. So I signed up at $10 a month.

That was 23 years ago, and I have been a monthly donor ever since. In more than that, that fundraiser was my entrÃ©e into being active with RESULTS. After time when I was able to, and I had the time, I became a volunteer. Then it became a group leader. Then I joined staff.

I am sharing this story because fundraising for RESULTS can be a surprisingly powerful way to bring people into our mission. Also bringing in critical financial support.

So if we could put up the slide, I am here to invite you to fund raise for RESULTS as part of our friends and family fund raising campaign this fall.

I know historical we have held these in November around Thanksgiving, but this year we are encouraging groups to fund raise in September to help us meet our fundraising goals for fiscal year, and our fiscal year ends in September.

I'm sure you've heard this before, but the support we received from friends, family, and you, it adds up. Edit so precious because it is the most likable funding we receive.

Gifts from their friends and family campaigns, they support the training, education and resources for your efficacy. They support expansion efforts to groups and more congressional districts. They support Experts on Poverty program, and allow us to be flexible and pursue new areas of work where we can component those brands that are restricted money (?).

I want to say we realize September is coming quickly, so if the timing doesn't work, we invite you to consider fundraising in October. As we kick off our new fiscal year.

And of course we value support anytime in the year. Our fundraising toolkit is always available. And we understand that taking this on is just not possible for everyone. So don't feel tremendous pressure if you are unable.

Now, you'll find many of the resources you need at (Link On Screen), Isaac one of my colleagues is putting it in the chat, it is also on the slide. Quitting a toolkit and a link to crater on fundraising page.

Although individuals can set up to do this, we invite you to consider federating as a group. We know fundraising can be intimidating. So it might be easier with the support of a group.

So now I will invite the gardener, who is been doing France of family fundraisers for over 13 years. You may have read about her in the log, if not I encourage you to do so.

Nancy is joining us from the woods (Laughs). Thank you so much Nancy for coming out today. Nancy mac thanks Lesley!

LESLEY REED:
Nancy want to say you and your group have turned these viruses into an art. I look forward to hearing you share about your expresses what you have learned.

NANCY GARDINER:
Thanks Lesley, great to be with everyone here today.

When our chapter started in 2010, we made a commitment to do a family and friends fundraiser every year. We really understand RESULTS is a nonprofit, so we as RESULTS volunteers are part of the results team. The staff supports us as we do our advocacy, FRC helps to support the scope and impact of all our work together.

Is Lesley shared fun racing is a form of outreach. It gives you a reason to tell people about what we do. We help our donors understand why this work is so important to the world and to us. So donating gives them an opportunity to play a role in ending poverty.

People like to be asked to help and to provide help. You are not inconveniencing your friends asking them to support a cause you care about.

When my Monterserrato fundraising and advocacy is people can't say yes unless you ask them. Give people an opportunity to do some good. People will surprise you. Not everyone will say yes, that's OK, maybe next time, but giving does feel good.

Some chapters to great group outreach events, but we are a really small chapter, so we found a way to do it at work for us. RESULTS online fund raising tool. The RESULTS online tool allows you to build a fund raising page. There is a tracking thermometer so you can watch progress towards your goal, you can immediately see the name of donors to your site, the amount you raised, and it even sends automatic thank you emails. The toolkit gives you instructions and ideas, they really make it easy.

We have tried all different versions of online pages over the years, and we really like the idea of one team page. Everyone works together on the goal, encouraging and supporting each other. And we have learned to set goals for both the amount of money we want to raise, and for the number of donors we want to try to achieve with our fundraiser. That kind of keeps us motivated, people like to help.

Each year we try to do a little better than we did before the previous year.

We have lots of small amount dollars, but we also have some regular donors who contribute larger amounts. The last couple years we have gotten creative with challenges. We ask to larger donors if they would commit to us in advance to match a certain amount from other donors. Then we use those commitments as challenges.

This past year, one donor pledged $25 matching gift for every donation we received, large or small. That helped us toward a number of donors goal.

Another donor matched -- pledged a matching gift of $4000 if we raised $4000 from other donors. Half of the donation was for herself, but I now have was from a matching employer.

The key is to think outside the box, find what motivates you and be creative.

We also take a vantage of themes, like in September with back-to-school, we would talk about our campaigns for The READ Act, or about child poverty. We learned to keep our campaigns short, because that keeps us motivated, and our potential donors engaged, and we work with a sense of urgency.

Just like we do with our advocacy, we keep working until the very end to try to reach our goals.

My advice to you is to believe, give her family and friends an opportunity to change the lives of people around the world because every act of generosity counts, everyone has something to give. Thanks Lesley.

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Your key questions to discuss with the group, if you decide to do if others are rejected that vomiting with any questions or for support at develop@results.org.

A way to remember when you ask people to support results you are actually giving them a gift. You are giving them a chance to help save and change millions of lives, and to support you, because we all love to support our friends and family. --

LESLEY REED:
So thank you, I'm going to turn it over now to Jennn Koo I believe will

JENNN KOO:
Hi everyone, thank you so much for that. The pleasure to be here.

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Jennn Koo and I'm a results volunteer in Connecticut. I am also one of this year's Grassroots Board Members alongside (unknown name), and Allison Gallaher. I'm here today to invite you all to an exciting engagement opportunity.

Since the beginning of RESULTS, we have had the core mission to categorize back catalyze Berkshires Englishness between people and the government, it is Grassroots Board numbers, we are elected to resent the views and perspectives of volunteers. So all of you, in our organization.

So Lynn, Aaron, Allison and I are especially passionate about sharing that we provide you all with Apple opportunities for your voices to be uplifted entered, especially in spaces where important decisions about results are being made.

So this Thursday â€“ October, Thursday, August 10. I fast-forward it a bit too much there! Thursday, August 10 8:30 PM Eastern time, we invite you all to her quarterly Grassroots town Hall event for a fun and engaging discussion about what your views and perspectives are for RESULTS, it is you want us to bring to the Board of Directors for this year regarding decisions for our organization, just giving you a chance to further connect with each other. And thank you Michael, (Indiscernible) for top injuring her thoughts and reflections on policies we advocate for based on your advocacy experiences.

We want to be a resource for you here. And we can stand up best for you when we have you share your thoughts with us.

This event is open to all RESULTS volunteers, action board members and friends. We will send out an invitation in the listserv later this week, but look forward to a pleasing you all soon.

Thank you, and I think I am passing things over to Jos now.

JOS LINN:
Thank you Jennn, looking for to the town all next week.

Giving -- greetings everyone, Jos Linn, before we get to our final announcement and move to Iovastatin we would like to know who's joining us today.

Can just watch the pole, we ask you respond. The number of people in your room today, including yourself, so we can get a pretty good idea of the total number of folks on call today.

As you take the poll, I will go through our announcements just to save a little bit of time.

First want to note that building on what Alicia and Sarah, their excellent training for gift you earlier in the call. I wanted to let you know RESULTS staff is holding Lobby Prep Office Hours each Tuesday evening in August from 8 PM to 9 PM Eastern time. If a questions about the issues, you want lobby coaching, or you need any other questions answered as you prepare for lobby meetings this month with your members of Congress, please do dial in. There is no registration required, we will be there the whole hour, you can dial in anytime from 8 PM to 9 PM Eastern time.

I'm going to come back to those.

Also wanted to flag we have another skill for your lobby meeting training coming up next week. Please join our motivational interviewing training with Sarah Leone on Wednesday, August 9. Motivational interviewing helps to have effective dialogues, helps you (Indiscernible) adversarial mindset and update used value-based advocacy to make the case for change.

I strongly encourage you to learn about â€“ more about motivational interviewing with Sarah.

We also doing an encore presentation of our Diversity & Inclusion training coming up this month on August 25. This webinar which is led by the Federalist Dr Christina Gunther is become a foundational component of our antidepressant work. -- Antidepression work. We strongly encourage people to attend if they can.

Back to what I missed before, just finally want to let you know our next two webinars are going to be on different dates. It won't be on the first Saturday of the month as we normally have, because of the holidays. So September webinar will be on September 9 because of Labor Day. And October, because of Indigenous Peoples day, will be on Saturday, October 14. And this will actually be a special extended webinar where we take a deeper look at domestic poverty campus, particular how work and permits have been used as a tool of oppression (?) will

We will have a series of experts on the panel. It will really be a great event from 12 PM to 3 PM that day Eastern time. There will be a break in the middle. Please do plan to join us. If you registered for this webinar already sometime this year, you were already registered for that one. We look forward to seeing you in October as well. There are other signs you can go through on your own on the website. With that, I will turn it over to Colin Smith for our global section.

COLIN SMITH:
Thanks, John. Hi, everyone. Colin Smith here, global policy director at RESULTS and really delighted to be here with you all today. We can jump to the next slide. So today and during the August Recess meetings we have been hearing about, we are launching a new global campaign. Focus on equity and impact. And the world's response to global poverty. Many of you spent the first part of this year fishing for record high government funding for this work. And now, we are making sure that funding gets put to the best possible use.

Some of this advocacy is already underway, you will recognize a lot of the actions we are talking about, in particular, both legislation on global tuberculosis and education, but this summer, and the next few weeks, we will also add a second stream to this advocacy. Which is pushing Congress to use its influence on the World Bank. We can jump to the next slide.

But first, before I get to that, switching gears. Some breaking news. Many of you worked last month to rally your members of the House of Representatives onto a bipartisan letter of the White House. This was calling for the US to step up in a big way on TB.

When UN leaders were at the UN next month. And you got over 100â€¦ If you ever wonder what happens when you do that, delete number of Congress sent that letter directly to President Biden and the RESULTS staff turned around and send it to the State Department and to you USAID, our countries may develop an agency, to the department of Health and Human Servicesâ€¦ And our international partners have been using it to spur their governments as well.

I have heard from colleagues in Sydney, Nairobi, Ottawa, Rome, Lusaka, Cape Town, all about different ideas about how to leverage the support within the US government.

With their own governments as well. So, we are now turning to the Senate to do it again. There is a similar letter circulating within the Senate right now. It was set to close yesterday but we got it extended by another week to next Friday, the 11th. If you have not yet, now again is the time to reach out to your senators foreign policy aide and ask them to sign on.

And many of you know this better than I do. We saw on the house side that this took a huge effort! The congressional offices are just really slammed right now. It is not so much opposition, I do not think. But just getting there attention. So, persistence here will be really key. Calling and calling until you get a yes or no. We do not know if an office is going to sign on, of course. But they at least owe you an answer.

You have an extra few days now to get it. We have a lot of resources on our website. Or you can reach out to RESULTS staff to reach -- to do this. But now, back to what we will focus on when the letter is done. The equity and impact campaign that I referenced earlier.

So, equity and impact. What do we mean by that team -- which we mean by that? It is the details that ultimately determine who government funding benefits and how. These are some of the highest level questions up on the screen. How is funding delivered? Does it prioritize the lowest income communities?

And groups that have been marginalized? Is it approach through partnership, not paternalism. With directly affected communities and countries.

What is the money spent on. Quite literally, like what do you buy? And from where? I do those choices follow the evidence using the latest science and following local leadership. We are going to be pushing Congress to shape the right answers to these kinds of questions on the funding that has been set aside for these issues. Because those answers can be the difference between, I think, like really transformational impact, or a lot of missed opportunity.

We can jump to the next slide. Probably in this campaign, we will have really two main camp -- pieces. -- Broadly. The first is how the US government spends the money that is channeled through USAID, our mainâ€¦ Working globally. And they have been working on two really landmark pieces of legislation to do this. Tuberculosis, non-education. These bills do not ask for more money, although we always like that, too.

They focus on the questions that I was just talking about. The second stream of work that we are adding is with the World Bank. The World Bank is the single biggest source of funding for the fight against poverty globally.

And it wills -- yields enormous influence bed way too many times in his history, but -- that influence has not been used for good. So, this campaign is not (Indiscernible) World Bank, it is about holding the World Bank to account. Making sure that tremendous money and tremendous influence is maximized. But it is used with equitably -- equitably and with real impact. After our guest speaker, will take in more about the kinds of actions we will be taking. First, I am really thrilled to welcome a guest was a real leader on this kind of work. Joining us today from (Unknown Name), where I think it is now six in the evening.

Kenneth, welcome. Kenneth Prudencio is a Head of Advocacy atâ€¦ They met. It is part of the action global health partnership. Along with RESULTS and other partner organizations across North America. Africa, Europe, Asia, and Australia. And Kenneth believes on advocacy for (Unknown Name) on health systems, on tuberculosis, on nutrition, and on budget efficiency and the kinds of equity and impact concerns that we are talking about. Before he worked at Oxfam, working -- focusing on improving national and international policies for equitable access to health. In addition to being a colleague and friend, he is also just a real leader on these issues nationally, regionally, globally. So, Kenneth, welcome. Really glad you can be here.

KENNETH PRUDENCIO:
Hi, Colin. Hi, everyone. I hope you are doing well. I am happy to be here. Thank you for the presentation. It is very well done. Thank you very much!

COLIN SMITH:
So maybe, let's start with tuberculosis. As I mentioned, grassroots network here in the US is pushing the Senate to sign on to a letter about the UN meeting coming up and you had led a major national convening on TV earlier this year with members of Parliament at the Minister of health, World Health Organization, and others. Needless -- to start, what are some of your observations about why equity in the TB response is so important.

KENNETH PRUDENCIO:
Thank you very much, Câ€¦ Main objective is to impact health olin. Clarify where we come from and policies to improveâ€¦ In Africa. We led to the study on TB and this showed that TB is the lease (Indiscernible)â€¦ HIV, TB, and malaria.

While TB is a leading cause of death, of HIV for example, and for us, we think that it is very important in fighting TB. Because it is critical that equitable approaches implemented in two main areas.

The early detection or screening of (Indiscernible) people. Communities. Because I still stand now. We had outreach materials that leave behind (Indiscernible) and communities living in remote areas. So, the first thing is that. The second thing, the response against TB in our country and region, the fact that the lack of funding push our state, our partners, but are states to make action, to make choice, between TB patients in terms of access to services like nutrition services.

While we know thatâ€¦ Must be supported. Supported by sufficient nutrients intake, not everyone benefits from the support of the government, because they lack funding. And this causes a major issue on equity and its slow down. It slows very much down. The objective we are trying to reach concerning TB.

Thank you.

COLIN SMITH:
Think you, that is super helpful. And I mean, maybe building on the point about TB to expand even more broadly on health - I recently read, you finish a couple months ago now, multicountry analysis looking at the World Bank's COVID response. And across West Africa with the hands of regional partners, including on -- some of the kinds of tough choices there just talking about.

One thing your point pointed out is that, sort of the emergency -- your report. Emergency funding ignore the existing challenges and did not consider long-term consequences. So, an example of how the World Bank funding can really make a difference, but also can fall short if we are not paying close attention or holding them accountable.

Could you give me be an example or two -- could you give an example of two about why integrating these funds into existing systems and the kind of existing challenges that you were just talking about it so important?

KENNETH PRUDENCIO:
Thank you very much, Colin. COVID-19 has moved many things in the health systems. In (Unknown Name) and Africa. The first thing I want to say here is that, the support of the international partners was very important and (Indiscernible) to and COVID-19. To undermine the negative impacts of COVID-19.

But the first thing I want to say to your question, was the fact that when COVID-19 starts in the country, it monopolizes nurses and doctors because of the emergency.

But also, because of the amount of funding given, in terms of projects, to the different doctors and the workforce. The health workforce in the country. So, it causes two things.

It forgot, first of all, the fact that before COVID-19, there were pre-existing issues. And people on the workforce working on these issues left these issues to go work on COVID-19 exclusively. The impact is that, for example, for the child health and use and adolescent health services, they were the first to be shut down because of COVID-19.

This workforce that went to work on COVID-19 did not always come back to work on the different issues.

Pre-existing before COVID-19 because they were like, we see now the difference between the findings, we received before and the work we received during COVID-19.

Even if more details on the study that I would be happy to share. The second thing I want to highlight here, concerning the fact that we think that superficial funding sometimes to treat a disease or a (Indiscernible) will not protect our communities globally.

On the long term. To do so, we think that emergency findings, when they came, COVID-19, etc., from the World Bank or other partners, must have two components.

And need to acquit apart to support health systems strengthening. In areas identified by (Indiscernible) in the governance. The second thing is that, they need to - when the World Bank comes into our country, they need to also accelerate. An issue that is controversial. But accelerate debt leaf measures. -- Relief measures.

â€¦ And communities to monitor us. This debt relief effective use into health systems in PPR. With this, we see we have the communities taken into account when we have the disease and emergency and if you reduce or you will leave our country from the debts, you will have to country's monetary and monitoring the effective use of the debt relief and health system strengthening.

That is something we can have a better integration of this. International fund. In the resilience of our health systems. Thank you.

COLIN SMITH:
Super helpful. We will come to this in a minute. But one of the things we want to push as RESULTS push on the Royal Bank to do and some of her actions this fall is, play a stronger role, -- World Bank. A stronger role and I really appreciate that perspective.

And then picking up on, you mentioned the two specific recommendations, one around all of the nuances around debt relief, but the other around supporting health system strengthening, needs identified by CSOs or civil society organizations and communities.

That is part of our commitment as an organization, too. Following the expertise of communities were directly affected by the issues we work on. And pushing institutions like USAID the World Bank to do a better job of that as well. Can you talk more about why communities and civil society organizations are so important to, like, actual impact of programs.

It may be what some of the consequences are when funding ignores that expertise.

KENNETH PRUDENCIO:
Thank you Colin, the first example I can give, was following the discussions before I had a chance to speak. I could see communities very involved in the activities you are doing. To answer your question, the first thing is that communities are so important because communities are already active and doing things. It's the first thing, this is what you show.

This idea of passive communities in the self-serve individual is not real. Now and I think response in the villages, the communities, the different regions, and for example 1 of the examples we share. I know about, concerns community health workers, they come from the communities, is guy living next door, organizing to ensure this (Indiscernible) is going to the hospital because he is sick. Because his parents, his mother, his uncle, has symptoms of TB, but the kids are not -- (Indiscernible) does not preserve himself from the parent.

So the health worker has the stroke to organize -- has the road to organize (Indiscernible) between the hospital and the health centers.

The second asked because programs are not eternal, when you come with programs and money and things, it's not internal. We have example of programs that totally collapsed after the donors left because it didn't belong to the communities.

Programs that come and just plant themselves in the country, they don't belong to the communities in the lead.

Also we have examples of success, we have examples (Indiscernible) a product called total (Indiscernible) and communities. It encouraged in the community's and strengthened education.

And now, years after the end of the program, the outcomes of the program have been held by the communities and they are managing themselves and improving the numbers, the percentages of health to follow what are the indicators, what are the indicators of quality health in the region. They are the one monitoring it.

Just wanted to show these two tables of the community is getting involved.

COLIN SMITH:
Super important both involved in the design, the day-to-day, actual knowledge and expertise of implementing and monitoring. So important.

May be one final question, we were talking a little earlier about how RESULTS grassroots volunteers work with members of Congress in the US. I know ASAPSU does the same with maps of Parliament and her members around the world are working with members of Parliament and other countries.

Can you maybe talk about the role of numbers of Parliament or Congress in this work, alongside civil society committees. The importance of parliamentary voices. Some of your strategies for implementing them. You have seen them make a difference. Here is to hear what of maybe the things Sarah and Alisha were talking about earlier about strategies for verse of Congress, things that resonated were lessons you've learned in that regard.

KENNETH PRUDENCIO:
Thank you, at first but congratulations for the work being done on that. It was really interesting to hear all that.

In (unknown name), MP importance is not always well known by them, especially on health. We have a pretty political Parliament, where humanitarian's are often expected to be talking about economics and (Indiscernible) politics, but not really on policies and on health.

It's very critical, we need is to make sure that for them, it's very critical that they (Indiscernible) the policies.

The first thing we did, and these are extorted for connections, so it is linked towards what's been said earlier. The different connections are very decisive, very critical to do the work.

We need to identify the most relevant for us, and important traits that position the side of the MPs we support work (?).

Two commissions, the first one is social affairs and the second concerns economical affairs. To identify the supporters and who can be against.

The second thing is we need to contact them and make sure to not be seen by the other camp as opposition, friends or things like that. It's important you meet with everyone after you've identified who can be your support and who can be your (Indiscernible).

Need to invite them to workshop, this is what we did, to workshop, with the community. To reduce the distance between the MPs and the community. Because sometimes, especially here in (unknown name), these are big names, we can talk to them. No, we (Indiscernible) rate the link between the MPs and the communities.

And there is something we did that we continue to do that's very important. Very important for the work. We need to teach, inform or strengthen their understanding of the role on health.

Educate MPs can appear strange, but really enthrall them. From how we can improve their discussions with the governments, and what to gain from it. This is very important. And the results we had from these actions, these different NP mobilization, is that they pushed the government to have strong commitment during the global (Indiscernible) that happened last or, the government (Indiscernible) its pledge on 23%, it was unprecedented.

Second figure working on now is to have discussion in the parliament concerning domestic resource mobilization improvement in the reduction of the health budget inefficiency. And we have opened this discussion now, we're continuing to (Indiscernible) because the health budget inefficiency in (unknown name) is 51% of the budget.

If you have one dollar, half of it doesn't serve to anything (Indiscernible) full stop so we are working on this issue right now. This is what I can share about the MP work out. Thank you.

COLIN SMITH:
Both the last point you made about efficiency, that is the crux of our equity impact campaign we are doing here. Parallel, what you were saying about nonpartisan work, what you were saying about reducing the level of connection or disconnect the tween members of Parliament and constituents, that's a big part of what these August Recess meetings we are doing here is about too. About building those connections and relationships. Just appreciate those lessons, and really powerful parallels across markets.

So Kenneth, thank you, this has been fabulous. We have a couple of final specifics on actions that are Grassroots can take, but as much a she -- just want to say a huge thanks to your work and thank you for joining us on a Saturday evening especially.

KENNETH PRUDENCIO:
It was a pleasure, thank you and thank you to everyone and all the Grassroots here. Thank you very much.

COLIN SMITH:
So a couple of thoughts about how we operationalize some of this.

Last fall, many of you lead the way on three bold new pieces of legislation, also focused on the kind of equity and impact we were just talking about. And you will helped bring members of Congress together from both parties as cosponsors, get all three of these bills passed in the key committees on nutrition, education and tuberculosis. The three of them listed on the screen there.

And as many of you know and remember, we got the first bill, focused on nutrition, signed into law. If you wonder what happens after a bill gets passed, serve as results may, we move onto the next action. But then what's the impact?

Actually just yesterday, yesterday afternoon, US 80 -- USAD Lisa Tesler 12 page plan that lays out exactly how they are permitting the politician prevention and treatment act we passed last year in order to improve nutrition programming globally. So we can share more about that soon. I wanted to feedback that when we do this work, he continues to make a difference.

And now we are working this year to get the TB and education bills over the finish line. Again, they share the same building blocks is the one focused on nutrition in terms of equity impact.

Some good news on the antituberculosis now act, it passed unanimously by the key committee, the house a foreign Khmer dish mac house up foreign affairs committee since we last met. Deep bipartisan support. In both these bills, The READ Act and the antituberculosis now act, have bipartisan support but we need pressure and priority and is very challenged and political environment to actually now get them to the president's desk. That is our next step on those.

To say very briefly on the World Bank, you can teach an entire college course on the history of the World Bank, how it operates, its governance, and then probably another course on just the problems. Outdated colonial decision-making, some of the truly hurtful policies it's driven.

So not going to do that here, but we have a policy form recording you can listen to, and we will have a bunch of written materials and other background available soon.

Suffice to say, the eyes of a lot of policymakers are on the World Bank right now, seeing the opportunity of what this institution can do, and also the challenges. Extreme poverty on the rise for the first time in decades, many countries as Kenneth was saying pushed into death traps -- pushed into debt traps. In all this alongside the really colliding crisis of COVID-19, conflict, climate, and we need to make sure with all these huge needs all across the planet that poverty isn't lost. There was a lot of focus on generating more money, but we want to make sure we also look at what that money is for. And we have a real history of doing that with the World Bank as RESULTS to make sure if they come looking for more money, they then spend it on a way that prioritizes equity, that listens to local leaders like Kenneth was talking about, and prioritize to property.

So we can go to the final slide.

The first half of this is going to be a letter from members of Congress to the leadership of the World Bank. It is not ready quite yet, but we will come back to you soon. But wanted to give you that preview now as we help by later in those August Recess meetings were talking about, you will be able to ask numbers of Congress to sign on.

In the meantime, first the TB letter I mentioned at the start. And second, these critical pieces of legislation. Pushing first to get your members of Congress signed on as coupon sponsors (?) -- signed on as cosponsors, then asking them to use their voice as Congress to push and get passed into law. And we have resources to help support you do that.

Without we are wrapping up the content for today. Really delighted to wish you all a happy Saturday. For a last minute here, I think Ken will open up the line so everyone can wish each other well and just a big thank you for your passion and commitment.

See you all soon!

KEN PATTERSON:
Thanks Colin, folks you should be able to unmute yourselves at this point.

(Multiple speakers)

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