Live Captioning by Ai-Media   
  
  
(Recording in progress)   
  
JOANNE CARTER:   
, Everyone, and Joanne Carter, executive director of RESULTS. I am glad to be with you all today as we take stock and celebrate our impact so far in 2024. And with our special guests some of this accelerator history too. Also the movement to end poverty and on democracy and impact we have had.   
  
Redo that I want to acknowledge we come together in the shadow of further escalating violence, death and catastrophic food insecurity in Gaza.   
  
With the assault on the (Unknown Term) hospital, the airstrike that killed 78 workers this week, and the famine imminent for over a million people in Gaza. I want to say again the need for an immediate cease-fire is even more urgent, and RESULTS continues to call for a cease-fire now for guaranteed safe pathways for massively expanded food, medical and other critical aid for civilians no ground offensive in (Unknown Term) and the least distract the release of hostages.   
  
This catastrophe and cause along with the violent conflict we see FMA people and are less expensive other parts of the world as well. In Haiti, Sudan, Ukraine. I know it weighs heavily on us as a community of antipoverty advocates who engage in this work to make the world a safer place where all can thrive.   
  
So I remain deeply grateful for this community and inspired by your advocacy.   
  
And in a specific intangible way, I have watched the map tracking your congressional meetings for our Community of Change campaign really come to life from coast to coast. At want to urge you to continue that work and continue those meetings. We have a relatively narrow window right now or we can impact in this election year direction, both domestically and nationally for work. I encourage to get pushing for those meetings and making those happen.   
  
You've also published over 100 pieces of meat are just as the meaning of the year to influence the agenda.   
  
And so now you have done see the face of someone political obstacles and a sense of gridlock on Capitol Hill, as well as some personal and local challenges many of you are facing in our communities. And of course what is unfolding in the world.   
  
But in the face of all of that, the last three months you are the driving force â€“ was going to say a driving force but I will say the driving force through an overwhelming peppers in victory the child tax credit in the House of Representatives.   
  
That will benefit from 16 million children and families with low income. And you continue to demand action from the Senate, including during this recent Congressional recess, to make this legislation law.   
  
You have also been advocating on behalf of children everywhere. As many of you low (?) now from our history, one of the most important ways do that is engaging in the congressional permission process that determines annual spending. Including for the firm assistance should.   
  
It can be such a walk and complex process. And that is even when Congress is functioning well. But the process has been further complicated in some ways by ongoing budget negotiations, not just for the next fiscal year but until even reason for the current fiscal your. -- Year.   
  
But I cannot advocate the convey how important your work is for this. That you've not been intimidated or stopped by the complicity's of the process. You are literally shaping how billions of dollars are spent.   
  
And if you are not personally asking your members of Congress to support funding for nutrition, for lifesaving child vaccines, and there is a really good chance that nobody is. And you truly are using the levers of democracy to ensure these needs and rights are prioritized.   
  
And we can see the evidence of your hard work and passion in the recently settled Fiscal Year 24 budget. Because while there was an overall 6% cut to four and eight, Congress maintained edit some kits increase nearly all of the accounts you advocated for.   
  
Global vaccines through (Unknown Term) vaccine alliance, timely dollar increase from the prior year. That means programs will reach more zero dose kids, and that is kids who have never had access to a single childhood vaccine.   
  
And the account for child nutrition also went up. It is no coincidence these accounts increase even in the face of topline budget reductions.   
  
It's also really so important we continue to call on Congress to be bold and deliver what is needed. Even if we don't get all of that right away. That we don't cut back are asks just because they look hard.   
  
In this commitment to bold action to end poverty, and that deep engagement in our democracy, really are part of the transformative vision of RSETS founder Sam Daley-Harris why am so pleased to say is with us today.   
  
Many of you know through -- no SAMHSA your time as a result the letter, some no there is book Reclaiming Our Democracy which was just released. I first knew Sam when I was a RESULTS volunteer and then got further engaged as group leader and regional ordinate.   
  
And then Sam and RESULTS several seconds ago took a chance and hired me as legislative director even though my training was as a veterinarian for stop so I've been with RESULTS ever since because I've never found any place where I felt I could make a bigger difference and be part of such a deeply committed community.   
  
So Sam, thank you for your unshakable mission of ordinary people creating extraordinary change. I will now hand the microphone over to my colleague Ken Patterson to introduce Sam and kick us off in a dialogue. Ken, over to you.   
  
KEN PATTERSON:   
Thank you Joanne. I'm excited about our April guest speaker, Sam Daley-Harris is the founder of result Mac as you heard. He has rewritten and released his book Reclaiming Our Democracy.   
  
The original version of the book was solely based on RESULTS, but this new addition gathers learnings from its ALT and many other organizations Sam has helped out or coached in transformation advocacy.   
  
I don't know about the rest of you, but the timing of Sam's book is right on. With the recent threats to our democracy, of misinformation, January 6 violence, and in the upcoming elections, we need a bold, proven get fresh perspective on democratic participation. And what is required of us as individuals and also as organizations that are trying to bridge the divide between people in government.   
  
And anyone paying attention nose influencing laws and policies and spending a really how we address poverty for policy is everything, and nothing is a more stark reminder of this ten-hour work on the Child Tax Credit. See what happened from 2021 to 2022. 2021 Child Tax Credit policy cut child poverty and half in the United States, allowing a policy to expire -- expand again it's what you want and double child poverty again. So ending poverty and solving other big problems, they are not about impossibilities full stop there about choices.   
  
During for section with Sam we will share some insights first then move on to some Q&A box stop I encourage you to think about the things you were struggling around democratic engagement and askSam for his thoughts in the chat. You may also have an opportunity to unmute, a couple of you, to ask your questions verbally before I headed over to Sam, I also want to say I personally have -- really run across anyone with such a clear purpose and understanding about what works in our democracy as Sam.   
  
Every time I talk to semi-learn something new or am reminded of something important I once knew but allowed to fade in my mind.   
  
Sam, he is often the rockets when I'm trying to grout my transfer Mitchell advocacy work. He is a friend and mentor, and I'm so glad to have Sam with us today. Welcome Sam. I'm going to spotlight you here.   
  
OU muted Sam.   
  
SAM DALEY-HARRIS:   
There it is. Thank you Ken, thank you Joanne, thank you everyone.   
  
So I'm going to share some slides, and I'm going to come off and share them again.   
  
What is a couple quick things to start.   
  
Number one is... This is a presentation, I've got 55 done about 25, I'm doing about 25 more. Many of them are on zoom. Some of them are live in person. Later this month I will be going to Chicago, DC, New York City, Princeton to do a talk with two other authors.   
  
But this is mostly for non-RESULTS affiliated organizations. So if you say, will I am already doing that, while yes! Congratulate yourself a stop acknowledge yourself will stop I want you to see what I'm saying to everyone, so you get a sense of that.   
  
Will nothing, I've been blessed by little team of book ambassadors who have worked with me for over a year really on getting this message out to the media. By the way, all royalties go to RESULTS. So when you put a book, I put the book website and the chat. Someone asked about that. The royalties go to RESULTS.   
  
Margaret Smith has gotten me on think, which goes to 200 NPR stations. Melissa Rogers has got me onto Laura Flanders show which goes to 100 public television stations. And I'm going to start sharing the slides.   
  
Give me one second, I'm going to set it up.   
  
I have been really struck by how vulnerable these hosts have been when talking to me about politics.   
  
So for example, this was the second question I was asked on the NPR program 1A which goes to about 350 stations around the United States.   
  
That is Billick was the host that day and said, this is question number two.   
  
"The passive nature to our politics now, you can feel beat down by it. I mean, this is my career and I feel beat down by it. It is much more benefit for me. I got pretty sweet in the same way others do because I'm a political journalist, but I do have to pay attention. It's a grind. It's a grind, Sam. I mean I know you know that. What am I feeling? What's the way out of that? I'm not an advocate, but you know what I'm saying."   
  
This is like question number two, probably to tens of thousands of listeners on 1A. That day.   
  
First thing I said to him when he asked the question was, Apollo restaurant Rusty Strecker said we are passengers on spaceship Earth, we are the crew. Well, are we? If we are crew, how to screw operate?   
  
Then I said futurists and claim activist Alan Stefan said, in fact these days cynicism is obedience. Well yes, if I am cynical I am obedient to the way things are. I'm not going to do anything about it. I mean why would I if nothing I do makes any difference.   
  
The next interview was on here and now. It goes to 400 NPR stations. And deeper Fernandez asked this question.   
  
She said one of the things I found really insightful in your book. You say to move from passively caring about something, say the environment, climate change, these big things that are actually happening in our lives. To actually taking action, we have to, and I'm quoting from you here in your book. Be honest about the hopelessness that it is -- the hopelessness that is in all of us. I found that really struck a chord with me Sam, because the issues we do care about sometimes see massive and immutable. How do you move past that sense of hopelessness?   
  
So I was just blown away by how vulnerable these national NPR in this case hosts were being with her questions.   
  
So I'm going to do two things without those slides, and I'm going to go back to the slides.   
  
One of the big things in the book is the story of cell. Now your why and share it. Why do you do what you do? In the story itself was developed by Marshall Ganz. Hopefully you know yours and you shared. If you don't, listen to the shortened version of my story of self and think about how yours would go.   
  
Why you do what you do? And how would you share that with others?   
  
Here's mine. I have a bachelors degree and Masters degree in music, and I played percussion instruments and the mining Philharmonic Orchestra, Joanne was a veterinarian and I was a musician. The (Unknown Term) harmonic orchestra for 12 years and that has good music will stop in 44 years ago I found it the antipoverty lobby RESULTS will stop a lot of times I asked, music, poverty will become a what's the connection?   
  
I look back in my line, there are certain expenses that start putting me in a different direction.   
  
The death of a friend around high school graduation in 1964, and the assassination of US Senator Robert Kennedy around college graduation in 1968, got me asking the questions of purpose. Why am I here? What am I here to do? What's my purpose?   
  
Nine years later I'm invited to a presentation on ending world hunger put on by the hunger project. And I went to this presentation seeking, "Well hunger is inevitable. What do I know? I'm a musician." I mean it's inevitable because in my mind there were no solutions. Because I'm thinking, if there were solutions, somebody would have done something by now.   
  
But in the early part of this event, it was obvious. There was no missing to growing food, clean water, basic health, literacy for are not helpless about the perceived lack of solutions, I'm hopeless about human nature. People. We just never get around to doing the things that could be done.   
  
But there was one human nature I had some control over. My own. In my questions, why am I here, what am I here to do. So I got involved in a big way, and this is the end of the story.   
  
In 1978 and 1979 I spoke to 7000 high school students, classroom classroom. And just before going into the first classroom I read some statements by Jimmy Carter's commission on world hunger and others, calling for the political will to end hunger.   
  
So I asked a 7000 Haskell students, what is the name of your member of Congress? I don't want to know if you wrote them, I don't want to know if you met them, just the name. Out of 7000 asked, 200, fewer than 3%, could answer correctly. Over 97%, 6800 couldn't tell me the name of a member of Congress. And RESULTS grew out of this gap between the calls for the political will to end hunger on the one hand, and the lack of basic information on who represented us in Washington on the other.   
  
That's my story of self, what happened in my life, what decisions I made that got me to this commitment.   
  
I urge if you do not do it now, right down your wife. Why do you do this, and share it with people.   
  
The other thing I want to share before go back to slides is the main theme of the book. The old title was Reclaiming Our Democracy: Feeling the Break between the Government. Reclaiming Our Democracy: Every Citizen's Guide to Transformational Advocacy.   
  
Transformational advocacy is the big idea in this book it's distinguishable from transactional advocacy. Transaction complete and transformational advocacy where you are trained, encouraged and then succeed at doing things as an advocate like meeting with your member of Congress and bringing them on board. Doing things as an advocate you never thought you could do and as a result you see yourself in a new light. You see yourself as a community leader.   
  
I'm just going to go back to my slides if you will just give me one moment. So, I am going to go to this next section which basically, now talking 249 other groups of people. We are not getting the support and training we need to engage in transformational advocacy.   
  
Number one last year the independent center for study did they found that 31% of nonprofits were engaging in advocacy or lobbying. Only 31% over the last five years. That's less than half of the number doing so in 2000. A little over 20 years ago. It gets worse.   
  
The Congressional management foundation asked advocacy professionals what their main tactic was. 79% of professionals said a formal email. Give me your ZIP Code and name and we will send a letter for you. 79% said reform email. It's the primary grabber suits-- grassroots advocacy tactic. Only 3% of congressional staff said form email said has a lot of influence in office decision. The good news is 94% of congressional staff said that in person issue visits from constituents, in person issue visits from constituents would have some or a lot of influence. Of course that's a key part of RESULTS and a key part of Reclaiming Our Democracy's prescription.   
  
Around the United States we are not getting the training and support we need generally to engage in transformational advocacy.   
  
I'm going to tell some stories now. These are the ones I tell always. First story is about a woman named Maxine Thomas. I don't even know if Maxine is on this call right now, but this is Maxine with her US Senator, Todd Young Republican of Indiana.   
  
Maxine has a lived experience of poverty and she told me that she had a heart for service but she was clueless about advocacy, especially political advocacy. At one point she joined a group called Circles that people who were committed to moving out of poverty. Her group learned that they had a story to tell. They looked around for an organization that could help them tell their story and they found RESULTS. They got involved.   
  
Eventually Maxine gets a scholarship to the RESULTS conference in DC. Corals luggage, goes to the conference, and then 94 her first-ever meetings with members of Congress, House and Senate she learns that the earned income tax credit is about to expire. The income tax credit in 2022 provided about $3100 for working low income family.   
  
I'm reading from the book. I put it on the slide but this is Maxine from the book.   
  
"The first Congressional meeting on lobby day was with Senator Dan coats, Republican of Indiana brought in the house. He was there for the entire meeting. I can still feel it. I was a ball of emotions. It felt like an out of body experience. I was processing being in DC, and now I'm in an exclusive meeting. We are all dressed up. It was high-level. The volunteers were polished and sharp, but I was nervous and scared. That's everyone on the first meeting. And worried whether I would say the right thing."   
  
I think he was Lisa Marchal who asked would you like to say anything. I think the senator and said I learned last night when I hear. I did not know I could come here from Indianapolis to talk to you, someone who represents us and can help us. I cannot imagine what will happen if the earned income tax credit is taken away from families like mine.   
  
I able to take a deep breath and catch up on my bills because of the earned income tax credit. I look forward to tax time because that's the only time I can handle my financial burden. I like to take my kids to the mall to buy shoes without worrying if it will take away from other bills.   
  
This is all maxing speaking.   
  
Senator Colt straightened himself up and said, "Wow this is been emotional. RESULTS, you do a good job of training people. Where did you find her?" And then he thanked me. That was the year he retired. He was very connected even though the earned income tax credit was not on his radar. He acknowledged being my voice and thanked me for being there.   
  
At the end of the date of congressional meetings Maxine said, "I was euphoric. I was on this high and felt I was part of something revolutionary. "That's a far cry from being hopeless and cynical. That is transformational advocacy.   
  
How do you find an organization that's committed to delivering transformational advocacy? So, here are the things I say one would look for. Other than I've talked to RESULTS UK, RESULTS Canada, now RESULTS US most of the others are tangentially or not at all involved in this.   
  
One, recruitment and building community. The organization brings people in not to build in the blast list, but real people talking to real people and forming them into chapters. That's the recruitment part. Building a community as a whole of organization monthly webinar. Hello, here we are. With guest speakers, Q&A, inspiration. Recruitment building community.   
  
Two, training. How do you get the meeting? What you ask for in the meeting? How do you write a letter to the editor?   
  
Three, the organization encourages breakthroughs. They encourage the members to move out of their comfort zone because confidence grows and transformation happens when you're encouraged and supported in doing things you thought you couldn't do and then succeed.   
  
In the book is the drawing on the left where there's a smaller circle labeled your comfort zone and to the right is a much larger circle labeled, where the magic happens. The organization encourages you to move out of your comfort zone. Next story.   
  
This is you guys. The story that I tell actually, only 50 times. In 2019 President Trump call for a 9% cut to the Global fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria after had saved 38 million lives along with its partners since its launch in 2002. It was time for the global fund three replenishment and other countries would likely follow the US lead.   
  
Most people didn't know that President Trump called for a 29% cut, and if they did most people would throw up their hands. What can you do? You can't fight City Hall. The people I know, that's you, rolled up their sleeves and got hundreds of members of Congress, Republicans and Democrats, to cosponsor resolutions in the house and Senate in support of the global fund and sign letters to Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, and to top House and Senate appropriators all in support of the Global fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.   
  
What do these revolutionary volunteer advocates look like? Number one you can go to gallery view if you want to know what they look like. Margaret, you are the costar of my presentation. They also looked a lot like this which is Margaret Smith from Dallas Texas talking with Ted Cruz, Senator Ted Cruz. She said I learned in RESULTS that I hold the senator's hands with two hands and I don't let go until I finish my laser talk on the Global fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.   
  
I think this year was the first year, I'm talking 2019, that Senator Cruz ever said yes to anything the groups in Texas had asked him to do. He cosponsored the Senate resolution.   
  
Instead of President Trump's proposed 29% cut to House Republicans and to house Democrats stood on the stage in Lyon, France at the global fund replenishment and announced that Congress would provide a 16% increase to the global fund, which it did and it was signed into law by the president.   
  
By 2022 the global fund partnership, that's the three replenishment, had saved 59 million lives since its inception in 2002.   
  
So, why does this matter? How does an action like this affect people's lives? I'm not going to do this right now. Usually if I was in my longer presentation I would get a little excerpt from this book by Stephen Lewis called Race against Time: Searching for Hope in AIDS Ravaged Africa. It's a series of lectures from 2005 three years after the global fund was launched.   
  
The story that I read, and I will take a moment to read it right now, was when he visits with Grosz of Michelle, wife of the late Nelson Mandela they visit a sibling headed household were the parents have both died of AIDS and have no other relatives to help take care of them. The household is headed by the oldest sibling. The 14-year-old daughter is the oldest, the-year-old son is youngest and the 14-year-old is the head of the household.   
  
That's why people like you and like Margaret Smith work on things like the Global Fund.   
  
This is the last story". This is a story about Ellie Sparks. Ellie was a volunteer with citizens climate lobby which told me this story. Now she is on staff. She said before I joined CCL I was suffering from climate trauma. I would read Bill McKibben's book Earth, at home and I would weep at work. And then I joined CCL in 18 months later I was co-leading a workshop on building relationships with members of Congress and editorial writers.   
  
She said our Executive Director said, we're betting the farm on relationships. Now go get a relationship with your member of Congress in your editorial writer. She said what in the world is a relationship with a member of Congress look like? How do you get a relationship with an editorial writer?   
  
He said some in the organization use the model of a work relationship. This is me quoting Ellie. I'm reading from the book. This is what Ellie said in the book.   
  
"My relationship model is different. I don't romantic relationships so I use romance as my model. That first meeting with the editorial writer, it's like a blind date, only decided beforehand you're going to marry this fellow. You're going to be sweet and interesting, not too intense. If it doesn't work out with the editor you're going to marry one of his friends at the newspaper. The business editor, environmental writer, city editor. Someone at this paper will find you interesting and compelling. It's just a matter of being persistent until you make the right connections. I see the relationship with a member of Congress as an arranged marriage. If you live in her district the numbers and has to meet with you. That's with the Congressman's legislative site director told us in January. Now in August 18 months later. Since January we met five times with the director. We scheduled 45 minute meetings. He keeps us well over an hour. He doesn't want us to leave.   
  
Why? Because a good arranged marriages starts out cold and slowly beats up over time. That's different than a love match which starts out hot and slowly cools down."   
  
Then she gets to the essence of transformational advocacy.   
  
(Reads)... Going into either offices was hard. I had to let go of a lot of emotional baggage. Economic or judge them or hold hostility in my heart towards them. I had to let go of my fear of climate change and I fear they wouldn't listen to me.   
  
I had to center myself in love, policing fear, and centering in love. This is sacred and profound work.   
  
Who thinks of advocacy as being sacred and profound? Will obviously it can become that if you find the right organization and open yourself up to it.   
  
Here's my restated mission. My mission is to inspire nonprofit leaders to create and citizens to actively join structures of support that deliver transformational advocacy and propel participants to become powerful citizen advocates who joyfully make a profound difference in the world.   
  
We are going to send you some things afterward and the follow-up email, like how you can find the books website. I need to put that in the chat again in a moment.   
  
If your chapter wants to get 15 or more people for a zoom book talk. I get all the members are brand-new ones together to hear me talk about RESULTS and Reclaiming Our Democracy, you can let me know at this website also.   
  
I will read this quote twice and then we will be done. This is from George Bernard Shaw's Man and Superman.   
  
"This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one, the being a force of nature, instead of a selfish, feverish little cloud of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy. I am of the opinion that my life belonged to the whole community, and it is my privilege to do for us whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no brief candle to me, it is a sort of splendid torch which I've got a hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it off to future generations."   
  
Once more.   
  
(Reads)   
  
Thank you.   
  
KEN PATTERSON:   
Where did Sam go? We lost Sam. So sorry about that folks. We still had a couple minutes for questions.   
  
I do encourage you to take a look at Sam's book, join the book conversations that I think was dropped in the chat earlier, we can drop it in the chat again. We will be sending out a note after the webinar with some of the interviews Sam has done most recently.   
  
This is the kind of shot in the arm so many of us need right now. Because working in this time is really challenging.   
  
We were on a meeting on Friday with Senator McCarthy's office, and talking to a couple of AIDS. Both of the aides said, Sam are you back?   
  
Let's see here, I will find Sam. Here he is! I will make you composed again. There you go Sam. -- Going to Attia also to...   
  
SAM DALEY-HARRIS:   
I'm back for   
  
KEN PATTERSON:   
Going Teddy to the spotlight. So glad to have you back.   
  
One quick question. We have four or five minutes here. I hear a number of advocates, they are struggling bringing some of their Republican members of Congress along the poverty issues we work on, some of them have even given up a little bit.   
  
What advice do you have for these folks?   
  
SAM DALEY-HARRIS:   
When I coach a group who is meeting with a member of Congress who opposes their issue or opposes the bill, I have them ask these three questions.   
  
Question 1: we know you don't support this bill. What would it take to change your mind? You are listening for assignments. I know you don't support this bill, what would it take to change your mind?   
  
2: could you say more about that?   
  
3: why do you think that is?   
  
It's basically a deep listening exercise.   
  
One other aspect of it is the Champion Scale. Oppose, neutral, supportive. Don't stop there, advocate, leader, champion. If my member of Congress is like... Let's say not on the same page with me. But I'm committed to being effective and creating a relationship.   
  
I will look through their news releases on the website and find something they did they are proud of that actually like. They may have been 25 things and there are two things alike, OK. I will pick one of the things they've done that I like and write a letter to the editor thanking them for their leadership on that. And asking them to bring the same kind of leadership to our issue.   
  
So unwilling people who are of -- have influence around them, there can think of how to why start a relationship? (Laughs)   
  
I always love mowing lawns that needed it. So if you are blessed with a member of Congress that's not on the same page as you, you get to see a much bigger difference.   
  
KEN PATTERSON:   
That's great Sam, and I agree with you on that too. Findings always end, waste to connect and all that are the way to go.   
  
Question here from Jim, do you know of any other organizations other than RESULTS and CCL training people to train other nonprofits and transformational advocacy?   
  
SAM DALEY-HARRIS:   
Other groups that are training their volunteers... Let's say two ways.   
  
One is there groups like the quicker lobby, France committee on national legislation. And even Catholic relief services which are groups I've coached that do that. And work hard at it kind of thing.   
  
To be honest I'm going to say something will the reason most organizations do not deliver transformational advocacy, here it comes. Is the fear of making big asks of volunteers.   
  
I'm not going to ask them to be on a monthly conference call and maybe stay after for an action meeting. That is asking a lot. Whatever, I'm not quite ask them to logical with a four-part new group training. So the fear of making big asks of volunteers is what really smothers any possibility of transformational advocacy. So there aren't many out there that do it.   
  
I do a fly in to DC once a year and that's it and everyone can go take a nap for the next 10 months then we will fly in to DC once again. But anyway.   
  
KEN PATTERSON:   
That's how you develop relationship. What I'm hearing also is transformational advocacy is not something that happens easily, it does take stepping outside the comfort zone and doing things you are not used to doing.   
  
Sam, what is sacred so much for being here. Also thank you for long-term mentorship I've had from you and really push it out.   
  
Folks again, continue to check out the reclaiming our democracy, the book, and look for other opportunities were same as speaking again. I thought that was a huge offer Sam give as well. As most of you can bring folks together in communities and have you join remotely that'll be a huge thing. Sam, and for the offer as well.   
  
SAM DALEY-HARRIS:   
Thank you to everyone for the amazing work you do.   
  
KEN PATTERSON:   
I one of the lesson, some said they got two or three of your questions. You are my typing is required in the chat that would be great. And altos on over to Michael Santos who will do our US campaign update.   
  
MICHAEL SANTOS:   
Thanks Ken, hello everyone. Can you hear me OK. Sounds good. Hello everyone, good to be back your full stop for those of you who haven't had a chance to meet it, I am Michael Santos, SoC Director of U.S. Policy@'s, I pronouns are he/him/his. I am based in Washington DC and my current focus on US policy is housing.   
  
Here today to give you critical based on a US policy update on behalf of Artemis, Shallon Thomas was not here in David Plasterer who is also actually on the chat responding to any questions you may have about various pulsating.   
  
For three buckets I want to focus on. First and foremost is the ongoing work on the Child Tax Credit, which is very timely given it's tax season, hopefully file taxes before the April 13 deadline. But now it is a critical time in our Child Tax Credit campaign.   
  
As you know your advocacy helped us pass a meaningful tax bill in the house in January. In addition to some tax breaks for businesses, the bill expands the CTC, Child Tax Credit, protecting the children and families with low incomes.   
  
Is not perfect by any means, but the CTC provisions are great step in the right direction.   
  
Despite having to bill forward to month, the Senate has the right to (Indiscernible) for supper pumpkin leadership is urging some Arista moped -- photo, the leading opposition is Idaho Senator and Senate Finance Committee Mike Crapo, Senator Crapo has voiced concerns about the bill since it was released and is always said he wants to get through yes.   
  
Is make a late as he does not like certain provisions related to the CTC. Most literally the look back revision.   
  
For those unfamiliar, this provision allows families who experience a temporary decrease in earnings to use the prior years income to determine their eligible credit amount. Senator Crapo claims this provision will undermine work. Despite numerous analysis and study showing of Papa.   
  
However when Senator Wyden offered to remove the revision from the bill entirely, Senator Crapo rejected it, he then (Indiscernible) and offers said contained dramatic cuts to the CDC provisions that no one will support including result smack at our allies.   
  
Based on this action Senator Crapo seems to what this bill to be delayed, to die quickly and quietly. Despite Senator Crapo's opposition, we have heard from as many as 15 to 20 Republican senators there like this bill as is and would like to see it passed. But whether they would vote against their own leadership remains to be seen.   
  
At this point, we need to urge Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer to put the bill on the floor for a vote. It's time for senators to be accountable on this issue. It's unclear if we would have the 60 votes needed to overcome a filibuster, but Senator should be on the record regarding your support for families with children.   
  
If you have a Democratic Senator please contact their offices and ask them to urge Senator Schumer to put the tax bill on the floor in the next week. If you have a Republican Saturday, or some to support the bill when or if it's brought to the floor for a vote.   
  
You can remind them the bill was crafted in a bipartisan way over the course of a year of painstaking negotiations.   
  
Remind them families and businesses in their state are paying attention, and are counting on them to vote yes.   
  
Know if you need any help when reaching out, or meeting with your Senate offices, feel free to contact David Plasterer who is here in the chat with us today. So David hopefully put his contact email address the chat.   
  
Time is running short and we are in the homestretch. Her advocacy has gotten us this far and can take us even further. We need to continue over the coming weeks after the Senate to act.   
  
Families deserve a vote, let's do what we can to help them get one.   
  
The second bucket is nutrition. The tax bill is not the only one competing for right now. Congress has a bill to pass which includes supplemental nutrition assistance program also known as SNAP. At RESULTS we believe everyone deserves to live healthy lives and access healthy food. In the past we have worked to strengthen and expand federal nutrition programs for millions of Americans including SNAP.   
  
Sadly each time the Farm Bill is up SNAP is targeted for cuts and policy changes that would increase. The current Farm Bill will expire in September this year, 2024. We do not have a timeline yet on how the Farm Bill and SNAP will move through Congress. What we do know so far is that the house and senators is expect to release a new Farm Bill proposal that will likely target SNAP for cuts again.   
  
Results strongly opposes any harmful policies and urges Congress to invest more to reduce hunger in the US including benefit amounts, removing harmful work requirements, protecting food choice options for recipients and reducing the disruption of benefits or what we also commonly call us addressing the benefits Cliff.   
  
In your US policy lobby meetings if you have not recently spoken to Senate offices or if you have Senate meetings in the next few weeks stay focused on the CTC that I just discussed. If not talk about SNAP. Same goes for any house meetings. Focus on SNAP.   
  
The current ascus for members of Congress to tell agriculture community leaders to protect SNAP reckless cuts and policies and Farm Bill negotiations including new restrictions on what foods SNAP recipients can buy. Instead they should work to strengthen SNAP by increasing benefit amounts and expanding access to them.   
  
Remember, when it comes to SNAP and the Farm Bill know Bill is better than a bad bill.   
  
Lastly the third bullet point is on housing. Some of you may have noticed but April is fair housing month. We are not focusing on housing in the current lobby meetings, expect a series of blog posts on housing during Fair Housing Month putting a blog post from me discussing the broader federal housing policy agenda. This will hopefully educate you on the scope of federal housing policy. Will help you distinguish different types of housing policies and help you get oriented, especially if you are new to RESULTS, existing federal housing policy advocacy.   
  
For those of you who have been doing housing in the past is a space that is complex and training. Hopefully the blog post will give you an overall view of some of the dynamics, challenges, limitations and most importantly we hope that the series of blog posts will provide you as context some of the existing policies.   
  
Also coming down the pipeline series of programs featuring some of our RESULTS volunteers discussing housing related policies on cash transfers, evictions and more on the Renter Tax Credit priority. Please stay tuned. Thank you for having me today and I will turn it over to my colleague, Cricket.   
  
CRICKETT:   
thank you so much, Michael. Glad to be here with everybody today. I wanted to just say at the top of the call we mentioned probably that Congress has been in session for the past two weeks, or out of session in the districts. With that district Misa-- recess means is a lot of the members are inaccessible. Staff are traveling. Maybe on staff you going to see global programs especially around foreign aid work will stop if you have been doing any sort of outreach over the past two weeks or so follow-up. I'm going to keep going with that.   
  
Monday everybody is back in regular business. As regular as this Congress gets. But of course on the Senate side our important push on the CTC is a priority. We also have this game changing letter that is now circulating. It is working to hold the World Bank accountable while meeting the needs of people living in poverty around the world.   
  
Real quick background. The World Bank says its mission is to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity on a livable planet. One of the ways they do that is by pulling resources from donors to support what's known as the international development assistance group as one of the World Bank groups. It's known as IDA. It aims to reduce poverty.   
  
Offers zero interest loans also known as credits for grants for reducing-- producing economic growth and increasing living conditions for people. It's focused on the 75 poorest countries around the world. It is the single biggest pot of global resources for poverty reduction.   
  
When I say the biggest I mean it. $93 billion was brought in with the last letter I DA replenishment. The world secured these dollars for what's known as highly concessional financing and it's again for the 75 poorest countries. Concessional financing means no or low interest. There's a lot of flexibility and a lot that countries can do to improve the lives of people, but a lot of it is focusing on infrastructure needs, economic needs, they have a lot of things that they can be doing with these dollars, but we really want to make a difference on what they are doing with these dollars.   
  
We think IDA money is good and should be more focused on money and prioritizing human needs like health, nutrition and access to education.   
  
Also one thing there's a new sheriff in town. Last year we got a new World Bank president. (Unknown Name) came in last year and is working with them to set their priorities for the next strategic period right now.   
  
The US is the biggest donor for IDA and we have a strong voice. Congress should be using that voice, and says Congress has voice here and you have a voice in Congress we are taking any-- action.   
  
Right now Senator Booker is circulating a letter in the Senate and it should be a bipartisan letter. It's just Senator Booker leading at this point we are hoping to get Republicans on this as well so everyone should be in action, but it's a letter that is pushing the World Bank to be more specific in their goals around antipoverty issues.   
  
I think it's an absolutely important time to be weighing in as the World Bank is now setting that strategic period. The new goals and coming back to Congress at the end of this year with a IDA replenishment is going to be more than 93 billion. For more resources we should be pushing the World Bank to be doing more good.   
  
Just a reminder again we have all of those folks out for recess. I think this is what I would do. I would send an email today, send it to your foreign aid staff are saying, will you sign onto this letter? Will our boss sign on to this letter? And then set a reminder for yourself.   
  
Come back at 10:30 AM on Monday and send that email again. Follow up and say just following up, making sure you are seeing this so this is front and center as people are coming back into their offices.   
  
Onward. Next slide. At the top of the call we had Joanne talking about the fiscal year 2024 bills in some of those. I wanted to put these numbers in front of you and show you where we were able to really increase resources.   
  
We did get a small increase for maternal and Child health, small increase for Gavi, tuberculosis was flat funded and the global fund we had a small reduction in the global funds because of the legal That we have we can't get one third of the resources that are raised globally.   
  
Basic education, there was a tiny decrease therefore that and it GPE. Those are the only decreases we saw but when the top line for Bill was really under fire we did amazing. We also got some really strong language in the bills supporting and making sure the programs have the highest impact reaching the most vulnerable populations. Really proud of our work there.   
  
But now we are moving on. Fiscal year 2025 is upon us. We don't necessarily have dates for the committee deadlines. It's usually where the appropriations each committee has separate deadlines. State and foreign operations is the committee we focus on because they are the ones in charge of spending.   
  
We have letters so that are already focusing on getting members of Congress to reach out to the leaders of the subcommittee that is (Unknown Name) and Barbara Lee on the house side and then Senator (Unknown Name) and Senator Graham on the house side. We have these letters circulating and you can ask members of Congress to sign onto these letters along with their individual, personalized asks to the head of the committee to prioritize our issues in this next bill.   
  
One thing to note is we are getting a shakeup. The top of the ladder is changing. We had Congresswoman Granger of Fort Worth Texas who is the chairwoman of appropriation. She is stepping down from that role. We think that Congressman call of Oklahoma Tom Cole of Oklahoma will be the new lead for the Appropriations Committee. I heard Oklahoma is on the call, really excited. We have a lot of work we can be doing especially influencing him and all the other members of appropriations alongside every other member of Congress that can actually reach out to those in leadership to get the dollars.   
  
We also have Senate letters. Two of those are out. Two more coming. Just pay attention to the deadlines. A lot of that is going to be moving and once Congress gets back this next week from recess those deadlines will be changing. It will get something more secure and set, especially when or if Congressman Cole gets into that new leadership role. So pay attention. We put updates and emails from Ken or myself and listserv's, make sure you're paying attention to the deadlines often in early.   
  
Reach out to Katie Fleischer or myself. Thanks for being in action here. Thanks for all the work you are doing. I think I turning it over to the next colleagues for the Grassroots Cafe.   
  
JOANNA DiSTEFANO:   
Thank you, Cricket. My name is Joanna DiStefano and I'm a senior assistant on the grassroots impact team here at RESULTS. We will kick things off with a quick poll to see how many folks are joining the call. When you see that window pop up on your screen please indicate how many people are watching along with you today.   
  
I think I saw at one point we had about 140 lines open on the call today, which is just excellent. We know some are groups of people meeting in person so this poll will give us an idea of the overall attendance. We will just take a few more minutes.   
  
It looks like a little over 100 folks have participated. Thank you all for participating in that poll. I think we can go ahead and close it out.   
  
Part of what brings us all here today is the shared belief that although politics these days is often associated with dread and cynicism doesn't have to be. We have the power to shape government so reflects our values. We do this by taking action to remain engaged with the folks we elect to represent us in Congress. That kind of advocacy in action is empowering, hopeful, and as Sam said at the top of the webinar, truly transformational.   
  
We've been busy this spring putting Sam's ideas into action. For this year RESULTS volunteers throughout the country have conducted nearly 80 congressional meetings. Building support for robust global poverty associations and the child tax credit expansions in the package closer to a vote in the Senate, but we are not done yet.   
  
Even more congressional meetings will be taking place in the coming weeks and requests are still being made. While we continue on this spring lobby push we will take some time now to be inspired by just a few of the folks who have had some notable lobbying experiences already.   
  
For many folks this is also an opportunity to build leadership, and for first share we will check in with National Fellow Karina Garavito and the RESULTS Phoenix group to hear about her experience leading a lobby meeting for the first time with the office of Senator Mark Kelly.   
  
Karina, are you there?   
  
KARINA GARAVITO:   
Hello, I'm here. Hi everyone, my name is Karina.   
  
Thank you for introducing me. My first experience leading a lobby meeting was empowering and a lot less scary than it seemed. My group and I as you mentioned recently met with Arizona Senator Mark Kelly's legislative assistant.   
  
I think being prepared is a good rule of thumb, although we didn't end up using all of the lobby materials, but I had printed up previous letters from the letter to editor that had published. Related to the Renter Tax Credit and child tax credit, but it was nice because I could fall back on them if I needed.   
  
Our group strategized the flow of the meeting by taking account the safest place on the Champion Scale, which we did at a prep meeting. Because we know the senator has shown support and been a proponent of other topics we were discussing.   
  
That led us to take a more inquisitive versus informative approach. And made the meeting feel more like a conversation rather than a presentation.   
  
Later in the day I was able to follow up with an email and had attached lobby materials. So they could look into it on things we had touched on. After McEachron Bremmer was there to support and play a role, and her group decided to break each part of the meeting and assigned content to each person.   
  
Woodpecker members did an amazing job connecting with the eight and ask for further be passionate about her role in federal policy. Anything that component of getting to know the person you're speaking to is very important for relationship to link with congressional offices. And it is just nice to get to know what bring someone to do what they do.   
  
Are the group member Catherine, she stepped in and remember to thank the Senator for the support, as they mentioned, previous sponsoring of bills. Enter Makalintal it is important to be prepared and have a structure, but it think it is also OK to let the meeting flow organically. Remember to slow down, take time to introduce yourself and a bit of background so they can understand why it is important. Because I think in the beginning I wanted to jump into our agenda and Rena helped remind me to introduce ourselves first (Laughs).   
  
My biggest fear going into the meetings was being asked a question I would not know the answer to. But I released there was no shame and saying I could look into that and follow-up. And realized she'd even said that to me and I was happy and satisfied with that answer. And that allows for a more thorough response for something you could just come up with on the spot. I think it is better to follow up anyways.   
  
I'm grateful my first meeting was with a friendly aid, and think my team for being amazing and willing to prep and attend at a short notice. And at the end of the meeting we took a photograph together, and it was a nice moment. I wish everyone luck on their lobbying. It was really empowering to use your words. I had expressive writing words (?) writing letters to the editor but having a conversation is a different experience.   
  
Am excited for everyone to start doing that. Thank you.   
  
JOANNA DISTEFANO:   
Thank you for sharing Karina, Celtic and agreeable express and we appreciate your excitement and enthusiasm moving forward, that's wonderful.   
  
Next we will pass the microphone to Pat Payne, in Castro Valley California for more on how partnership help augment Herbert's loving success with representative Eric (Unknown Name). Hey Pat.   
  
PAT PAYNE:   
Hi, my name is Pat Payne, and I am a passionate, committed advocate for RESULTS, and also a member of the Together Women Rise advocacy chapter.   
  
RESULTS partners together with Together Women Rise provides training and guidance on primarily global poverty issues. And I have been working with them for five years.   
  
As the point person for Mike Congressman Eric (Unknown Name) from the California 14th district, I sent a request in February to meet with Congressman swallow. (?) Congress in (Unknown Name).   
  
After three weeks I got a response from his legislative aide Carly second edge? Carly (Unknown Name) will stop she agreed to meet with us in the next two days.   
  
So this was quite a challenge. I had to... I was the only constituent from my RESULTS group, so I needed to gather a coalition.   
  
I reached out to Susan right who is the California mentor for advocates from Together Women Rise. Together we put together a coalition of constituents and antipoverty advocates from four different groups. We quickly assembled, assigned roles and prepped for our meeting.   
  
I will say the meeting was a success. We had never worked together as a group, and have never met Carly think of it, yet the personal story that Amy Manson shared about working with Afghan refugee girls who were denied education. We followed up with Susan Wright who talk about her experiences as a Peace Corps volunteer, and how important education and also just basic nutrition is to good health.   
  
Finally Georgia plats from our Silicon Valley group discussed various tax strategies to encourage bipartisan support on the Renter Tax Credit and child tax credit.   
  
Even though we had not worked with Carly before, we made a difference. Our partnership enabled us to have the political will to make an impact and influence Congressman (Unknown Name).   
  
Carly at the end of our meeting commented that she would rely on RESULTS as a resource on antipoverty issues. So we are continuing to build a relationship with Congressman's staff.   
  
I want to encourage all of you to reach out and invite other like-minded organizations that share core values. Groups like Returning Peace Corps Volunteers, or Together Women Rise, or Citizen Climate Lobby. Together partnerships that share the same values can truly make an impact when they work together to have the political will. Thank you.   
  
JOANNA DISTEFANO:   
Thanks so much Pat, it's a good reminder the store you shared, how partnerships help to amplify our impact. Thank you for those words and the encouragement for the volunteers.   
  
Last but certainly not least we have our friend in Austin, TX, Eloise Sutherland who had a very powerful and personal interaction with representatives Tony Gonzales she's going to share about.   
  
ELOISE SUTHERLAND:   
Yes, this was a great experience.   
  
Back in February and learned representatives Tony Gonzales, a Republican representing most of Southwest Texas, was going to be interviewed by Aaron Smith. Of PBS fame. This was at the LBJ school of Public affairs. And the interview was open to the public.   
  
I made my reservation, I wanted to ask him to cosponsor the read reauthorization act.   
  
Representative Gonzales is represented of, but his district includes (Unknown Term) Kelly Waggoner up. You probably heard about Uvalde in the news in the last couple of years.   
  
I arrived early and found a seat in the front row. The interview included questions about the mass shooting at Rob elementary school in Valley.   
  
They also talked about integration along the Texas Mexico border, and the primary election which was just a few weeks away.   
  
When the interview was over, the representative made a beeline for the door. I went running after him. I introduced myself and told him I had graduated from Uvalde high school. And that my mother had taught at Rob elementary. That caught his attention.   
  
I told him I believed many of the people risking their lives traveling to cross the border into the US might not want to if they had access to a good education in their home country.   
  
Then I asked him to cosponsor the Read Reauthorization. He said he would look at it. I asked him if I could get back with him. He said sure, and pointed me to a woman who gave me her card. When I got home I emailed her with information about global education and The READ Act. She merely forwarded my email to the representatives Chief of Staff in Washington DC.   
  
I was blown away, I never get to talk to the Chief of Staff. Will he emailed me saying they would take a look and get back with me. I have heard that a million times so I did not expect to hear from then anytime soon if at all. Excuse me.   
  
But two days later the Chief of Staff sent me an email saying Tony will be on the bill today. And he was. I was so excited. It was great to see one more representatives as a cosponsor. And it all happened in just two days.   
  
JOANNA DISTEFANO:   
Thank you so much Eloise, you are a picture of persistence and that was a wonderful share. Thanks to Karina and Pat also. I will pass things off to my colleagues now Lisa Marchal.   
  
LISA MARCHAL:   
Hi everyone, Hope you are doing well. His Lisa Marchal, and the manager of grassroots impacts, located in Indianapolis Indiana. Hope you are doing well.   
  
It is such a thrill to celebrate her progress in completing lobbying meetings during this Community of Change campaign.   
  
Look at this map, 79 total meetings so far that we know about. That's why it is so important to report. Total offices covered, 68, 43 house meetings. 25 Senate meetings. And we aren't done. You are not done. We will continue to have lobby meetings throughout the month of April. As you may have heard we have a goal of meeting with every office we cover with as many in person meetings with senators and representatives as possible.   
  
So this call to action. The goal is 350 meetings, and we are prepared to help you achieve that. You can see on the slide we have lobbying resources for you for this community of change campaign.   
  
It will help you feel confident, and so you will see there is a link there to volunteers\lobbying where you can get all sorts of information and can go to our community of change campaign to get more information as well.   
  
When you have booked your meetings contactor colleague Katie Fleischer for a lobby prep meeting with staff at stop you will be booked in with staff who can talk to about your particular meetings. We will be putting Catie Simon the child, or you can talk to your regional coordinators or other staff on how to get in touch with Catie.   
  
As you plan to meet with congressional offices, do not forget all the ways to be inclusive. Invite people interaction networks, invite partners. Invite people who have been curious about RESULTS. Make sure your fellows are supported to take leadership in the meetings. Talk with no advocates, ask them how they would like to take part.   
  
Advocacy is something full of us to be engaged in, and we only grow stronger when we help each other be successful.   
  
Meetings with members of Congress in developing respectful productive long-term relationship with correctional officers is set the heart of what we do. And you are wonderful at it. You are making a powerful difference. So thank you so very much.   
  
Without I will pass it to my colleague Jay Mack was Canis with of upcoming events and opportunities. Jos.   
  
JOS LINN:   
Hi everybody, my name is Jocelyn, assistant director of grassroots impact results might be thinking to city Missouri. Like Lisa said I have been feeling optimistic.   
  
First it is that time of year again for stop time to choose your next Grassroots Board Member full stop   
  
Gratis Board Member of RESULTS are forever vultures who sit on the boards to represent the interests of you, our volunteers. These board members are people dedicated to giving you ideas and concerns a voice on the board.   
  
We have one member transitioning off this year and are looking for interested individuals to run for that seat. So if you know a volunteer who would make a good candidate for the Grassroots Board, please nominate them. Or if you feel like you want to take on this role, feel free to nominee yourself a stop   
  
Nominations are due Wednesday, April 24 with the election happening over the summer. Please visit the link in the slides, and for more information on how to nominate someone for this important position.   
  
Tuesday, May 7 join our building community partnerships and poverty webinar. Can gain an understanding of the essential community partnerships play in organizing advocacy. In webinar you will have time to map out community connections, create an action plan and practice how to talk with community partners.   
  
These are essential and valuable skills to growing the movie-- movement. Please register at the link in the slide and in the chat.   
  
Speaking of partnerships you can put those skills to use right away in our getting on the record convening meetings in June. This summer as politicians turn their attention to the election we are not going to let them leave the needs of those experiencing poverty behind. We have a plan to mobilize communities, show up and get on the record to end poverty. In June he want advocates from all of our groups to get together locally in person and take action for results. As a grassroots movement power comes from our people and we have the power, we have built power by strengthening relationships with each other and inviting you advocates and partners to be in action together with us.   
  
This is your chance to engage like-minded people while building relationships with each other. In the coming weeks RESULTS will be debuting a host of new resources including branded postcards we will send you to help you plan and host action meetings in June on hunger and child health. We are excited to support you to come together, have fun and get our communities on the record for solutions to poverty. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks including the May webinar. We will have a lot about this in the May webinar.   
  
There some other slides I will scroll through really quickly. You can see all of these trainings and opportunities to learn from RESULTS and learn from new skills that we have available coming up, as well as support calls from outreach and things like that. If I went through those too fast you can always find the slides on the website, on our national webinar page and if you are also looking for events you can find them on the events calendar which is also found on the RESULTS website.   
  
As a reminder our next national webinar will be Saturday, May 4. May 4 be with you. Special guests will be Dr. Theopista Jacob Masenge the vice president of the Pediatric Association of Tanzania. She will talk to us about the importance of vaccines and nutrition and child health.   
  
Doctor (Unknown Name) will be joining us not from Africa but from Texas. Surrounded by our results volunteers and in the Dallas area as she finishes up a southern states speaking to her. We are privileged and excited to have her, and on this webinar you also, like I said, provide a detailed overview of the June getting on the record community meetings campaign that I mentioned. Please plan to join us for this important webinar.   
  
So finally I would like to close with a special treat from two North Dakota volunteer Kathleen Ness. Kathleen, are you there?   
  
  
SPEAKER:   
Yes, I am. I feel like a few weeks ago I woke up in the middle of the night to write down upon. Before that I pondered a recent protest against the elimination of several music and language teaching positions in the public schools.   
  
Scores of students, many of whom gave speeches, were among the hundreds that showed up at the school board meeting to protest using these teachers-- losing these teachers and the students even had their own Instagram page.   
  
The power of joining with others to raise one's voice prevail. The school board rescinded its decision. Here is my poem. It's entitled Raise Your Voices.   
  
Raise your voices Children. Let us know you are here. Remind us of our duty with your voices loud and clear. You all deserve a roof above and food so you can grow with teachers for your heart and mind sharing what they know. We say you are our future then let your stomachs growl, expose you to the elements when the cold winds howl. Empty words can't nourish or close or feed or heal, and indifference does not comfort, or teach, or guide or shield.   
  
So, sing a song of hunger, embarrass us until we face up to our neglect and exert political will. Remind us with your voices that our votes affect your lives so we must make wiser choices to keep your hope alive.   
  
Then sing a song of gratitude, but don't let us forget we heard you with indifference, a precedent we set.   
  
Raise your voices, children. Let us know you are here. Remind us of our duty with your voice is loud and clear. Thank you.   
  
SPEAKER:   
Thank you so much, Kathleen. What an inspiring way to end this call. Fantastic, perfect. Thank you so much. We appreciate you sharing that today. Folks, we appreciate everyone being on the webinar today. Remember to register for the main webinar if you have not already, and we will look forward to seeing you next month.   
  
I think Ken let's go ahead and open up all the lines and wish each other happy solar eclipse.   
  
(Multiple speakers)   
  
  
  
SPEAKER:   
Share the poem.   
  
KEN PATTERSON:   
(indiscernible) Lisa can see if she can grab it for the follow-up email.   
  
Live Captioning by Ai-Media

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