

RESULTS Print Media: Global Poverty

January 1 – April 11, 2024

Date	State	Article	Outlet	Media Type	Topic	
Go to Arizona media						
2/4/24	AZ	Reauthorize the Read Act	Arizona Daily Star	Letter to the editor	Global education	
<u>Go to California media</u>						
3/8/23	CA	Demand funding for global health, nutrition	East Bay Times	Letter to the editor	Global maternal/child health, global child nutrition	
3/8/23	CA	Demand funding for global health, nutrition	Mercury News	Letter to the editor	Global maternal/child health, global child nutrition	
3/13/23	CA	Democrats, GOP should agree on health care	East Bay Times	Letter to the editor	Global child nutrition	
3/13/23	CA	Democrats, GOP should agree on health care	Mercury News	Letter to the editor	Global child nutrition	
3/15/23	CA	Lee's legacy marked by love and kindness	East Bay Times	Letter to the editor	Global Fund for AIDS/TB/Malaria, Child Tax Credit	
3/15/23	CA	Lee's legacy marked by love and kindness	Mercury News	Letter to the editor	Global Fund for AIDS/TB/Malaria, Child Tax Credit	
<u>Go to Indiana media</u>						
1/28/24	IN	Stop tuberculosis with End TB Now	The Times of Northwest Indiana	Letter to the editor	Global TB	
Go to Maine media						

3/12/24	ME	Fund global education to support women	Bangor Daily News	Letter to the editor	Global education	
<u>Go to Missouri media</u>						
1/14/24	МО	Fight against HIV/AIDS should have bipartisan support	Springfield News- Leader	Letter to the editor	PEPFAR	
1/1/24	МО	Civility in politics message can be applied to Congress	Springfield News- Leader	Letter to the editor	Global TB	
2/15/24	МО	Plague case in Western U.S. is reminder that funding vaccines is still critical	Columbia Missourian	Letter to the Editor	Global vaccines	
2/20/24	МО	U.S. humanitarian funding also protects national security	St. Louis Post- Dispatch	Letter to the editor	Global appropriations	
2/21/24	МО	Congress should support international immunization programs	Phelps County Focus	Letter to the Editor	Global vaccines	
<u>Go to Montana media</u>						
1/1/24	MT	End Tuberculosis	Daily Inter-Lake	Letter to the editor	Global TB	
Go to Tennessee media						
1/17/24	TN	Congress needs to take action on READ, End TB Now acts	Oak Ridger	Letter to the editor	Global TB, global education	
<u>Go to Texas media</u>						
1/24/24	TX	A billionaire gambler gave Abbott \$6 million. It's time for Texans to reclaim their democracy.	Houston Chronicle	Op-ed	Advocacy	
1/29/24	TX	House should take up measure addressing global education needs	Austin American- Statesman	Letter to the editor	Global education	

2/2/24	TX	<u>Listen to Results</u>	Dallas Morning Letter to the editor		Advocacy
2/4/24	TX	Be a voter and an advocate	Dallas Morning News	Letter to the editor	Advocacy
3/8/24	TX	International Women's Day	Dallas Morning News	Letter to the editor	Global maternal/child health
Go to Washington state media					
2/16/24	WA	Protest Bangladesh's arrest of Mohammad Yunus	Everett Herald	Letter to the editor	Muhammad Yunus
3/11/24	WA	Volunteering offers a path toward seeing results	Everett Herald	Letter to the editor	Global tuberculosis, advocacy
<u>Go to National media</u>					
1/1/24	US	Feel-good policies	Costco Connection	Letter to the editor	Advocacy
1/17/24	МТ	Congress needs to take action on READ, End TB Now acts	Yahoo News (reprint from TN)	Letter to the editor	Global TB, global education
4/6/24	US	<u>Create a Bright Spot</u>	3rd Act Magazine	Letter to the editor	Child Tax Credit, global education

Arizona media



Reauthorize the Read Act

February 4, 2024

In the United States, we are lucky enough to have public education programs that nurture student's education which in turn produces generations of leaders and economic growth. While we show appreciation for educators in our own country, we have to acknowledge the fact that nearly % of 10-year olds globally are unable to read (Unicef). These children are not being given the basic necessary skills to become lifelong learners. Children globally deserve the foundational educational necessities. Future wages increase an average of 10 percent for each year of school completed (World Bank). The READ Act ensures the U.S. government will continue to update and report on their strategy to improve foundational literacy and numeracy in basic education around the globe. On Nov. 6, the Senate passed the READ Act and sent it to the House of Representatives, where it has wide, bipartisan support, but awaits committee consideration and passage into law. We urge house members to use legislative measures in supporting children's basic educational necessities.

- Karina Garavito, Foothills

https://tucson.com/opinion/letters/letter-lte-reauthorize-the-read-act/article 9c24bffe-bff8-11ee-9297-c7d30e8908af.html

California media

EAST BAY TIMES

Demand funding for global health, nutrition

March 8, 2024

Friday marks International Women's Day. Although we are far from perfect in the United States regarding the social and institutional disparities between males and females, the situation is much more dire in many other countries. It is especially disconcerting when these disparities undermine the health and education of girls, and are completely avoidable.

Our government has consistently been a strong partner in global anti-poverty funding for programs such as Global Maternal and Child Health and Global Nutrition. Our members of Congress must provide bold funding levels in their fiscal year 2025 spending bill. Let's make it more than a day for the women of the world.

- Ricardo Narvaez, Concord

https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2024/03/07/letters-1642/

Reprinted in:

The Alercury News

https://www.mercurynews.com/2024/03/07/letters-1642/

EAST BAY TIMES

Democrats, GOP should agree on health care

March 13, 2024

Re: "Demand funding for global health, nutrition" (Page A6, March 8).

Thanks for publishing Ricardo Narvaez's letter on International Women's Day. It seems to me that there's a lot of common ground between liberals who want to protect women's health and conservatives who want to protect babies' lives and, presumably, the lives of mothers who'll take care of those babies and children already born.

Sadly, mothers dying during and within a year of childbirth is unnecessarily high. In the United States, the maternal mortality rate (the number of deaths per 100,000 births) is 32.9 and globally it's 223.

I hope that the common ground mentioned above leads Congress to increase international child and maternal health funding to at least \$1.15 billion in next year's budget. Protecting the lives of babies, children and mothers through better health care is something we should all support.

– Jim Driggers, Concord

https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2024/03/12/letters-1648/

Reprinted in:

The Alercury News

https://www.mercurynews.com/2024/03/12/letters-1648/

EAST BAY TIMES

Lee's legacy marked by love and kindness

March 15, 2024

Re: "Lee will leave inspired legacy" (Page A1, March 10).

I was moved by John Woolfolk's article on Rep. Barbara Lee's life and legacy after 25 years in Congress.

I consider her a champion in ending poverty. Her wisdom and patience in pushing for effective programs such as the Global Fund to Fight Aids, TB and Malaria, and global vaccination programs (way before COVID), as well as U.S. tax policies like the Child Tax Credit to help people lift themselves out of poverty saved millions of lives. I will miss her as my representative in Congress and hope her successor will be as effective and persistent in her work with congressional colleagues on both sides of the aisle as well as with constituents to fund and expand those worthwhile programs.

Thank you, Rep. Lee, for your love and kindness.

Susan Oehser, Oakland

https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2024/03/14/letters-1652/

Reprinted in:

The Mercury News

https://www.mercurynews.com/2024/03/14/letters-1652/

Indiana media



Stop tuberculosis with End TB Now

January 28, 2024

Congress often punts on legislation in an election year. But In this election year, passing the End TB Now Act is an opportunity to shore up key public investments against partisan winds.

Tuberculosis is the leading killer among diseases worldwide, and its impact is measurable in our country as higher rates of TB among foreign-born denizens (who are commonplace around Northwest Indiana). The End Tuberculosis Now Act, introduced by Sen. Young and cosponsored by Sen. Braun, will require USAID to coordinate with federal agencies to update and implement programs for the global prevention, treatment and eradication of tuberculosis. It also requires USAID to contribute to the World Health Organization and other international organizations for such initiatives.

Currently USAID is following these guidelines, but giving them the force of law assures continued investments needed to hold an international disease at bay before it crosses our borders regardless of partisan whims.

Oscar Lanzi, Chicago

https://www.nwitimes.com/opinion/letters/oscar-lanzi/article_0779df56-b73d-11ee-ab0f-8b5fc9c76a1d.html

Maine media



Fund global education to support women

March 12, 2024

Click to share on Twitter (Opens in new window)Click to share on Facebook (Opens in new window)Click to share on Reddit (Opens in new window)Click to print (Opens in new window)Click to email a link to a friend (Opens in new window)

If your social media feed is anything like mine, you likely saw myriad posts and articles on Friday, March 8, in honor of International Women's Day. Each year, we recognize International Women's Day and designate March as Women's History Month in order to focus on women's rights, gender equality, and more. If you're like me, you've also likely wondered what more we can do to spread awareness and have an impact on women and girls in the United States and across the globe.

Education is a key way to help level the playing field for women. According to the United Nations, globally, women make up two-thirds of the population who are unable to read or write, and rural girls make up the smallest group to attend secondary school. For girls who are able to attain an education, each year of school is a significant predictor of later economic success. In a world where women are underpaid and undervalued, education can make a difference. Invest in global education to honor and support women's rights during Women's History Month.

Each March also brings conversation about the federal budget and the appropriations process. Investing in basic education and funding global organizations fighting for gender equity in education and beyond is essential. As our representatives discuss this year's budget, I urge them and any citizens passionate about women's rights to fund global education this month and every month.

Natalie Jones, Stockton Springs

https://www.bangordailynews.com/2024/03/12/opinion/letters/letter-fund-global-education-to-support-women/

Missouri media

Springfield News-Leader

Fight against HIV/AIDS should have bipartisan support

January 14, 2024

I wholeheartedly agree with columnist Stephanie Hein ("Civility in politics is the legacy we ought to be leaving our children," Dec. 31), who emphasizes the need to put aside partisanship and work together.

One area which has historically enjoyed bipartisan support is global health. A prime example is the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief ("PEPFAR"), a program started by President George W. Bush in 2003, at a time when AIDS was ravaging the planet. Since then, with Congressional support across party lines, PEPFAR has saved over 25 million lives, and has allowed 5.5 million babies to be born HIV-free.

Unfortunately, HIV/AIDS is still a crisis; someone new is infected every 30 seconds. While much progress has been made, the fight continues. PEPFAR is now up for Congressional reauthorization, a process which has become bogged down in partisan bickering. It is critical that Missouri Senators Josh Hawley and Eric Schmitt embody the bipartisanship which this live-saving program has previously enjoyed and vote for a clean five-year reauthorization of PEPFAR.

— Greg Campbell, Creve Coeur

https://www.news-leader.com/story/opinion/readers/2024/01/14/letter-writer-says-efforts-keep-donald-trump-off-ballot-unamerican/72167458007/

Springfield News-Leader

Civility in politics message can be applied to Congress

January 21, 2024

As a mother and an author of a book about why moms make great advocates called "From Changing Diapers to Changing the World," I applaud Stephanie Hein's message. ("Civility in Politics is the legacy we ought to be leaving for our children," Dec. 31). Moms are often primary teachers for kids learning to be decent and kind. We can bring this positive energy to Congress with solutions to the world's biggest problems.

I've advocated to my members of Congress about global health for 18 years. I took my children along from their toddler to teen years to show them what constructive and respectful dialogue looks like in Washington D.C. and local offices.

Now that my kids are adults, they fully comprehend the dangers of diseases like tuberculosis, which is still untreated in impoverished areas of the world. This year, we continue to promote bills like the End TB Now Act (H.R. 1776, S. 288).

But you don't need to be a parent to engage in non-partisan advocacy. You can join us now by calling Senators Hawley and Schmitt and asking them to co-sponsor the End TB Now Act. Your act of civility can save lives!

- Cynthia Changyit Levin, St. Louis

https://www.news-leader.com/story/opinion/readers/2024/01/21/letters-address-school-intruder-drills-civility-politics/72247845007/



Plague case in Western U.S. is reminder that funding vaccines is still critical

February 15, 2024

Reports of the bubonic plague in our Western states ("An Oregon resident was diagnosed with the plague," published online Feb. 13) is a reminder that infectious diseases are a present threat whether we think about them or not.

Two diseases far more common than the plague and on the rise are tuberculosis and measles. We need continued funding support from Congress to fight them in the U.S. and in developing countries around the world.

America's investments in international development and humanitarian support make up less than 1% of the federal budget and yield an extraordinary return. Not only is it the morally right thing to do to help impoverished people, but it directlybenefits American taxpayers by protecting us from infectious diseases.

I ask Sens. Josh Hawley and Eric Schmitt, and Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer to protect foreign assistance in this year's appropriations process and support the highest possible levels of funding for global vaccines programs for next year.

Cynthia Changyit Levin is a resident of Town and Country and the author of "From Changing Diapers to Changing the World: Why Moms Make Great Advocates and How to Get Started."

https://www.columbiamissourian.com/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/plague-case-in-western-u-s-is-reminder-that-funding-vaccines-is-still-critical/article_3756aab6-cbaf-11ee-887f-4b838789ba58.html



U.S. humanitarian funding also protects national security

February 20, 2024

It's hard to get anything done in an election year, but the Senate managed to pass an aid package to address national security issues. ("Senate passes \$95.3 billion aid package for Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan after rare all-night session," Feb. 13.)

I hope Congress makes every effort to keep up U.S. leadership in fighting extreme poverty and preventable disease, which also promotes national security. America's investments in international development and humanitarian support make up less than 1% of the federal budget and yield an extraordinary return. Not only is it the morally right thing to do to help impoverished people, but it directly benefits American taxpayers by protecting us from infectious diseases.

I ask Sens. Josh Hawley and Eric Schmitt, and Reps. Ann Wagner Cori Bush, to protect foreign assistance in this year's appropriations process and support the highest possible levels of funding for global vaccines programs for next year.

Cynthia Changyit Levin, Town and Country

https://www.stltoday.com/opinion/letters/letter-u-s-humanitarian-funding-also-protects-national-security/article_964c0a82-cf80-11ee-be85-1bb86ba9c82e.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share



Congress should support international immunization programs

February 21, 2024

Best of luck to STEM students who will get to share their love of science at the SciFest Engineering Expo Feb. 24. It's so important to celebrate and encourage science in our communities because decisions that affect our health are made by our elected officials that should be based in science fact. Vaccine funding is a good example of that.

Our members of Congress should support investments in international development that include immunization efforts. Such programs make up less than 1% of the federal budget and yield extraordinary return. Not only is it the morally right thing to do to help impoverished people, but it directly benefits American taxpayers by protecting us from infectious diseases.

I ask Senator Hawley, Senator Schmitt and Representative Smith to protect foreign assistance in this year's appropriations process and support the highest possible levels of funding for global vaccines programs for next year.

- Cynthia Changyit Levin, Town and Country

https://www.phelpscountyfocus.com/opinion/article_178d5f4c-d0d5-11ee-88a1-1713bcfdd8fa.html

Montana media

Daily Inter Lake

End tuberculosis

January 1, 2024

As we head into winter's cold and flu season, it's important to remember that the world's deadliest respiratory disease is sadly alive and well.

Tuberculosis is often thought of as a disease of the past, but TB killed 1.6 million in 2021.

When it comes to fighting disease, vigilance is required. That's why Congress needs to pass the End TB Now Act as soon as possible. This bill would require the U.S. to prioritize TB resources to areas around the world most affected by the disease and set up a process and measures to track success. The longer we wait, the more people will die.

Covid-19 showed us that no country is immune from the spread of disease. But it also has shown us that when we work together, we can save lives. I urge our members of Congress, Sens. Jon Tester and Steve Daines, and Reps. Matt Rosendale and Ryan Zinke to quickly pass the End TB Now Act and get on track to finally ending this terrible disease.

Karen Cunningham, West Glacier

https://dailyinterlake.com/news/2024/jan/01/letters-to-the-editor-jan-1/

Tennessee media

OAKRIDGER

Congress needs to take action on READ, End TB Now acts

January 17, 2024

To the Editor:

Breaking news: Congress adjourned without passing important legislation. OK, so that's not unusual at all. Left hanging are two pieces of foreign policy really deserve attention.

Education is the foundation of healthy families, a more prosperous future, and good governance. Yet according to a new UNESCO report, 250 million children were out of school in 2022, six million more than the previous year. The READ Act Reauthorization would mitigate this crisis by continuing proven policies that build strong partnerships and deliver results, particularly for girls and young people in conflict-ridden nations. The READ Act Reauthorization unanimously passed the Senate in November. House leaders should follow their lead and pass HR681.

We hear a lot about COVID, flu and RSV. But a different disease, tuberculosis, killed 1.6 million people in 2021. Most of the 10.5 million new cases last year were in low and middle-income countries. But, airborne like COVID, TB easily travels around the globe and can develop drug-resistant strains if not properly treated. The End TB Now Act would catalyze research for an effective vaccine and new drugs to fight resistance. It would strengthen coordination with other governments and global organizations, and set bold goals for detection, treatment and prevention. For accountability, Congress would require performance evaluations of supported programs and annual reports specifying impact.

These bills make our foreign development funds more effective while saving and improving lives. Congress should pass both these bills as soon as possible when it resumes in 2024.

— Anne Child, Oak Ridge

https://www.oakridger.com/story/opinion/letters/2024/01/17/letter-congress-needs-to-take-action-on-read-end-tb-now-acts/72082448007/

Reprinted in:

yahoo!news

https://www.yahoo.com/news/letter-congress-needs-action-read-

193834408.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLmNvbS8&guce_referrer_s ig=AQAAACgWlmVz8CU4XNaxfkAwHmLfrBuD8HBlDVNn36FHJ5UYlyZL28hpWjqxsKcQWsYpoVt4jxGxRN DsahW2GqWlu1HVf3y0KbPeR-

cJSrBGmAoraElA15AkNN8HuvytOfchhUHuLvY6NCqXHWkfVqIRiHHB6 GrkzUjwF aMX4iuMbM

Texas media



A billionaire gambler gave Abbott \$6 million. It's time for Texans to reclaim their democracy.

By Claudia Morgan and Sam Daley-Harris

January 19, 2024

A Pennsylvania billionaire gave Gov. Greg Abbott \$6 million last month in the single largest donation in Texas political history, money the governor promises to employ in his reprisals against reasonable Republicans.

Texans must take their government back from the oligarchs who are showering our leaders with millions, and there's a manual on how to do it.

Abbott's new donor is Jeff Yass, a former professional gambler and co-founder of Susquehanna International Group, an investment firm specializing in options trading, another form of gambling. He is the 52nd wealthiest man in the world, worth \$28.9 billion, according to Forbes, and he's obsessed with destroying public schools.

Abbott could not be prouder.

"With this substantial financial backing, Governor Abbott will ensure that the conservative candidates who support his bold agenda to expand school choice, secure our southern border, and lower property taxes have what they need to keep Texas red," a campaign statement declared.

Yass is the Tim Dunn of Pennsylvania, a reclusive libertarian billionaire who uses loose campaign finance laws and secretive political action committees to drive his ideological agenda. Like Dunn, who recently pocketed billions more by selling his West Texas oil and gas company, he's not afraid to back the most extreme right wing characters.

Yass handed out \$18 million to his favored candidates in Pennsylvania's 2022 primary elections and is a heavy donor to the ultraconservative State Policy Network. The local chapter is the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a right wing group that strikes fear in every Republican politician.

Investigative journalism outfit ProPublica took a deep dive into how Yass has avoided paying \$1 billion in taxes. Meanwhile, he called the COVID-19 pandemic a boon for his bottom line and invests in gambling websites that exploit addiction.

Abbott, who is not up for reelection this year, will spend some of the money to defeat rural Republicans who voted against his plan to provide taxpayer-funded private school vouchers and gut public school funding. Rural lawmakers recognize that public schools are the largest employers in their districts, which do not have private schools.

Yass' gift doubles Dunn's \$3 million contribution to Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick's campaign coffers through his Defend Texas Liberty PAC. Just as Patrick delivered an acquittal for Dunn's handpicked attorney general, Ken Paxton, Yass hopes Abbott can deliver on school vouchers despite polls showing most Texans oppose them.

Such massive donations, extremist rhetoric and one-party rule have left most Texas voters disillusioned. A new Pew Research survey shows extreme partisanship is souring all Americans on our democracy.

"I feel like if I could get my voice out there more, I would be more involved," one Republican-leaning woman told Pew. "I'm not one of the important people, you know what I mean?"

Sam Daley-Harris knows precisely how she feels, which is why he's thoroughly updated his book, "Reclaiming Our Democracy." The book provides a detailed guide to nonpartisan engagement with politicians of every stripe to demand they meet the needs of the people, not their billionaire donors.

Daley-Harris' experience founding RESULTS, an anti-poverty nonprofit, in 1985 informs his tactics. The group trains volunteers to contact their elected officials, get appointments with them or their staff and make the case for common sense solutions.

RESULTS is good at alerting the media, too. Readers should know the Houston chapter gave me an award last year for my commentary on poverty and health issues.

Citizens are shocked to learn how responsive elected officials can be, especially if you offer an intelligent pitch instead of cursing at them. Politicians and journalists are swamped with emails and messages from professional communicators daily, and we don't hear enough from regular folks who sincerely desire to better their community.

"The book aims to show people that when it comes to protecting our democracy, more is possible than just voting, as important as that is, or standing by and watching in horror," Daley-Harris told me.

I sense that every person who tells me they hate politics and politicians is hungry for change. We can see it in the polls showing how much we disapprove of our leaders. We live it through low-turnout elections. Only 16% of Houston voters cast ballots in the mayoral runoff.

This year, we need angry and disillusioned citizens to speak up because, I promise you, that's what the extremists and billionaires on all sides fear the most. A popular revolt by the center would take away their partisan power and replace it with the practically-minded democracy we all want.

https://link.houstonchronicle.com/view/5d2a1d76fc942d07dc18969ek9v2r.zp/30c8d7 ba

Austin American-Statesman

House should take up measure addressing global education needs

January 29, 2024

Covid-19 interrupted learning for children all around the world. Millions of children could not access digital learning programs. Many have not yet returned to school. According to a UNESCO report, 250 million children were out of school in 2022, 6 million more than the previous year.

We must not allow a generation of children to miss out on a quality education. The READ Act Reauthorization (H.R. 681) seeks to address this global education challenge. It reauthorizes the original 2017 READ Act, which is a proven policy that delivers positive results, especially for girls and children in conflict areas.

The Senate has passed the bill. I call on Chairman Michael McCaul to move it to the floor of the House. Tell your representative you want them to support H.R. 681. The world's children deserve no less.

- Eloise Sutherland, Austin

https://www.statesman.com/story/opinion/letters/2024/01/29/readers-react-talk-of-a-border-invasion-is-intended-to-scare-you/72310140007/

The Dallas Morning News

Listen to Results

February 2, 2024

Texans must recognize their power as voters. Congress is accountable to us, the taxpayers, so we should advocate for change. Antipathy and apathy threaten our democracy, but we can overcome them.

Nonpartisan organizations like Results provide a platform for individuals to use their voices to influence political decisions. Results has local chapters in Dallas and Fort Worth, offering opportunities to engage and make a difference.

I encourage readers to join organizations like Results, research candidates and demand honesty and humility from our elected officials. Let's reclaim our democracy and shape the future of our great state Texas and the country.

- Bukekile Dube, McKinney

https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2024/02/02/letters-to-the-editor-david-casstevens-immigration-ken-paxton-voting-texans-cowboys/

The Dallas Morning News

Be a voter and an advocate

February 4, 2024

Re: "How We Can Reclaim Our Democracy — We have to be more discerning voters. Our Voter Guide can help you make a decision," Wednesday editorial.

Apollo Astronaut Rusty Schweickart said: "We aren't passengers on Spaceship Earth, we're the crew. We aren't residents on this planet, we're citizens. The difference in both cases is responsibility."

This editorial about voting and being informed is hugely important. But what about all the time between elections the days, weeks, and months afterward?

I recently read Sam Daley-Harris' book, Reclaiming Our Democracy, and listened to Kris Boyd's Think interview of Daley-Harris, "Why signing that online petition isn't enough." Daley-Harris founded the anti-poverty lobby Results in 1980 and Civic Courage in 2012.

Almost 15 years ago, a group of very ordinary Dallas folks joined Results and learned how to advocate effectively with our elected officials. Since then we have had members of Congress take 217 actions by meeting with them or their staff 252 times, generating 174 pieces of published media and holding 76 community events. It has been a transformational experience and not something I ever thought I could do.

So in addition to becoming a discerning voter, why not become an advocate? It would be a powerful way to make a difference while strengthening our democracy in the process.

- Margaret Smith, Dallas/Turtle Creek

https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2024/02/04/letters-to-the-editor-border-deal-pam-little-houti-attacks-medical-insurance-results/

The Dallas Morning News

International Women's Day

March 8, 2024

International Women's Day on March 8 offers us a chance to unite in solidarity with women worldwide to expedite progress and tackle the challenges they confront in various crises. The world wrestles with severe poverty exacerbated by the pandemic, conflicts and the adverse effects of climate change, disproportionately affecting women and children and resulting in heightened poverty levels and limited access to vital services.

To avert further hardships, the United Nations urges the implementation of genderresponsive financing programs crucial for empowering women economically, enhancing maternal and child health, and safeguarding family well-being.

I urge readers to contact their members of Congress ahead of the fiscal year 2025 budget deliberations, advocating for funding that places a premium on combating poverty, improving maternal health and ensuring a brighter future for women and children globally.

Bukekile Dube, McKinney

https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2024/03/08/letters-to-the-editor-authoritarian-rhetoric-ken-paxton-international-womens-day/

Washington state media



Protest Bangladesh's arrest of Mohammad Yunus

February 16, 2024

Bangladesh Prime Minister Hasina Sheikh celebrated the new year with news that one of her "enemies" was sentenced to six months in prison.

Professor Mohammad Yunus is 83 years old, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, recipient of the U.S. Congressional Medal, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Yunus launched the first microcredit lending program in Bangladesh which evolved into the Grameen Bank. The "Banker to the Poor" made small loans to help poor people become entrepreneurs. As of 2020, Grameen Bank has roughly 9 million borrowers, 97 percent of which are women, with a near-perfect repayment rate.

Earlier in 2023, 190 global leaders, including 108 Nobel Laureates, signed a letter calling on the prime minister to stop harassing Professor Yunus. Help the signal break through the noise. Call members of Congress at: 202-224-3121 and encourage them to support a man who has lifted many out of poverty.

— Mary Minor, Snohomish

https://www.heraldnet.com/opinion/protest-bangladeshs-arrest-of-mohammad-yunus/



Volunteering offers a path toward seeing results

March 11, 2024

It's very impressive that a high school junior is aware of the "numerous benefits of volunteering" ('Looking for a late resolution? Consider serving as a volunteer," by Matthew Leger, The Herald, Feb. 17)

My 30-plus years of volunteering with RESULTS (results.org) to make sure everyone has basic needs met by battling the scourges of poverty have proven those benefits to be true. I no longer had to stand by as more than 40,000 children were dying every day, instead using my voice with members of Congress to pass legislation that has cut that to around 14,000 each day. Still too many, but I am not done, and you can help, too. While it seems to some that all they can do is vote, RESULTS trains us to speak to and encourage our representatives to make a difference.

Hard to believe? Just last week I met with U.S. Rep. Rick Larsen, D-Wash., (after he got in touch with RESULTS) to get an update on global health for his upcoming trip to South Africa. He knows how to listen and ask questions and will be better prepared for his trip. Then he can encourage others in the House to fund initiatives like the End TB Now Act that save lives globally and protect us locally. So thanks to Matthew Leger for his reminder and to Rep. Larsen for his efforts to listen, learn, and take action. We can all do the same: volunteering creates a better world for all.

- Willie Dickerson, Snohomish

https://www.heraldnet.com/opinion/volunteering-offers-a-path-toward-seeing-results/

National media



Feel-good policies

January 2024

Thanks for the inspirations stories of members making a difference by helping others ["Be the change,", December 2023]. We can each do something – smile at others, take a moment to help in simple ways, talk to your members of Congress to encourage legislation that you believe will make a difference. Using our voices can make a difference.

- Willie Dickerson, Snohomish, Washington

https://www.costcoconnection.com/january_2024/page2.html



Create a Bright Spot

Spring 2024

Lind Henry's piece about life brings up the question, "What am I creating?" ("Life is What You Create," Fall 2023). There are many bright spots in our world, but of course it is generally the negative that gets the press (3rd Act is a joyful exception). Acts of kindness and working to make a difference, while living lightly, are helping me create a bright spot within. Speaking up to those who represent me in Congress (202-224-3121) about critical legislation like renewing the expanded Child Tax Credit (CTC) and the READ Act can create bright spots for millions in our country and around the world. Making this call can make a difference by cutting child poverty in half by passing the CTC and giving tens of millions the opportunity for an education in areas of the world experiencing poverty with the READ Act. Why not try taking action to create a bright spot, within you and without you?

- Willie Dickerson, Snohomish, WA

https://issuu.com/3rdactmagazine/docs/interior-spring-2024?fr=sMTMxNDY0NDEwMjM