



**TOGETHER  
WOMEN RISE**

Collective action for global gender equality



# RISE Advocacy Chapter July Webinar

**July 18, 2023**

# Welcome

*Please let us know in the chat where you  
are joining us from!*

## **Together Women Rise's Mission**

**Together Women Rise cultivates the collective power of  
community  
to achieve global gender equality.**

## **OUR VISION**

**Together Women Rise envisions a world where every person  
has the same opportunities to thrive  
regardless of their gender or where they live.**

# Our Values & Resources

The logo for RESULTS, featuring the word "results" in white lowercase letters on a red speech bubble background.

*At RESULTS we pledge to create space for all voices, including those of us who are currently experiencing poverty. We will address oppressive behavior in our interactions, families, communities, work, and world. Our strength is rooted in our diversity of experiences, not in our assumptions.*

*With unearned privilege comes the responsibility to act so the burden to educate and change doesn't fall solely on those experiencing oppression. When we miss the mark on our values, we will acknowledge our mistake, seek forgiveness, learn, and work together as a community to pursue equity.*

**Read our full anti-oppression values statement here at [results.org/values](https://results.org/values).**

Check out the [2023 Spring Anti-Oppression Workshop Schedule](#) for training opportunities.

**Find these resources and more at [results.org/volunteers/anti-oppression](https://results.org/volunteers/anti-oppression):**

- Resource Guides from our Diversity & Inclusion trainings, including:
  - Interrupting Microaggressions
  - Creating Space for Critical Conversations
- Information on how RESULTS responds to oppressive incidents



The READ Act:  
Time is of the  
Essence!

## Tomorrow's Women



What actions have you taken on the READ Act thus far?

What does it take to get the attention from our members of Congress?

# Next Steps:

Choose your own adventure...





***Follow Up Advocacy Action:***

Requesting co-sponsorship of the  
READ Act Reauthorization (H.R. 681/ S.41)

- Write an email **now**  
([use the sample email linked here](#))
- Make phone call **now**,  
Capitol Switchboard (202) 224 - 3121
- [Send this action](#) to friends **now**
- [Write letter to the editor](#) **now**

1. [Check here](#) to see if your Representative or Senator has co-sponsored the READ Act Reauthorization of 2023 (H.R. 681/ S.41) or will likely support it if they co-sponsored last year ([check here](#) for past support during the 117th Congress).
2. Use [Legislator Lookup](#) *if you are unsure of who to reach out to, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Together Women Rise Advocacy Chapter Mentor for support.*
3. Call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224 - 3121 to confirm they received your request, **continue to follow up until you get a "yes" or "no" response.**

- Link for folks to sign up:  
<https://results.salsalabs.org/diningforwomen/index.html>
- Next webinar: **Tuesday, August 15 at 8:30 PM ET**
- If you would like to learn more about RISE grantees, there are chapters across the US, as well as a virtual national chapter meeting with a speaker from the grantee each month on the **first Thursday of the month at 8 PM ET**: <https://togetherwomenrise.org/upcoming-events/>
- RESULTS Global Policy Forum - **Thursday, August 17 at 9:00 PM ET**  
[Register here.](#)

**Thank you for joining us  
tonight!**

# READ Act S.41, H.R.681



*Calls for USAID to:*

- 1. Develop comprehensive strategy that improves educational opportunities and addresses barriers to attendance, retention, completion, especially for girls;*
- 2. Ensure education services for children affected by conflict and other emergencies;*
- 3. Coordinate U.S. government efforts to efficiently and effectively manage resources;*
- 4. Work with countries to strengthen systems in order to build long-term sustainability;*
- 5. Engage with key partners including other donors, civil society and multilateral initiatives, including the Global Partnership for Education, for greatest impact*
- 6. Require specific indicators and objectives with which to measure progress;*
- 7. Improve the transparency and accountability of our basic education programs, ensuring taxpayer dollars have the most impact for children worldwide.*

# Engage

There is a phenomenon called “learning poverty,” and it targets the futures of children. Children who experience learning poverty cannot read or comprehend simple text by 10 years old.

# State the problem

According to the World Bank, roughly 57% of children in low- and middle-income countries experienced learning poverty in 2019. Thanks in part to the COVID-19 pandemic, that rate has increased to a stunning 70%.



# Inform on solutions

The READ Act of 2017 made a difference in the lives of millions of young people and needs to be reauthorized in 2023. The bill calls on the U.S. to update its foundational literacy and numeracy strategy. It also calls for robust monitoring and evaluation.

# Call to action

Children around the world need reading and numeracy skills for success and a bright future.

**Will you be a READ Act  
co-sponsor?**