Summary of 2021 Impact

2021 grassroots advocacy by the numbers:

600+ Meetings with Congress, including all 100 Senate offices
500+ Pieces of local media

100 days, 100 senators, 50 states: setting an agenda against poverty

With a new Congress and Administration coming to Washington, RESULTS wasn’t waiting around. As policymakers started their first 100 days in office, our movement of advocates set out to meet with members of Congress across the country and across the political spectrum.

Coast to coast, RESULTS advocates delivered, helping Congress set a new agenda against poverty. RESULTS held more than 300 congressional meetings, including reaching all 100 Senate offices in 100 days.

Through those meetings, RESULTS volunteers helped secure $11 billion for global nutrition and the global COVID response. They then got record-high bipartisan congressional support to boost funding on global health and education even further. And they helped secure key emergency provisions in the COVID relief deal that were part of cutting child poverty nearly in half in the United States.

Perhaps most importantly, those first 100 days helped build the relationships needed for long-term change on Capitol Hill. Through the deep advocacy that’s at the core of RESULTS, our advocates were making sure policymakers understand that poverty was a crisis long before the pandemic – and making sure they do what it takes to bring it to an end.

COVID relief and cutting child poverty in half

The first weekend of March 2021, Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio joined a call with RESULTS volunteers just minutes after the Senate passed the COVID relief bill. After telling
RESULTS advocates they “set the standard for citizen activism,” he said that it was “the best day he’s had in the Senate” because of what the bill did against poverty.

A week later the bill was signed into law, and it included key changes to the tax code that were part of cutting child poverty in half in the United States in the next six months. And it included every emergency action that had been the focus of RESULTS advocates during the First 100 Days campaign.

The bill expanded the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit, which were already some of the country’s most powerful tools against poverty. For years, RESULTS volunteers had helped build strong congressional support for both tax credits. These new expansions helped cut the U.S. child poverty rate in half and support 17 million low-wage workers. More than $20 billion in new emergency rental assistance also helped millions of people at risk of eviction.

The bill also provided $11 billion for the global response to the pandemic, including $800 million for nutrition and $3.5 billion for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. That $3.5 billion was the biggest-ever U.S. commitment to the Global Fund, building on nearly two decades of bipartisan advocacy from RESULTS advocates.

Moving from emergency relief to an equitable recovery

After securing transformational COVID relief, RESULTS advocates didn't slow down. They kept working to make sure policymakers understood that poverty was a crisis long before the pandemic, and far more than just emergency relief was needed.

Bipartisan nutrition legislation

RESULTS worked with bipartisan champions in the House and Senate to build support for new global nutrition legislation. The bill makes sure USAID focuses its global nutrition work on what has the biggest impact for the most children. Progress on nutrition and food insecurity had stalled since 2014, and then tumbled backward in 2020 because of the pandemic. The Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act will help make sure the U.S. does its part to get back on track.

Making tax credit expansions permanent

With the key tax provisions of the March COVID relief package set to expire after a year, RESULTS advocates got right to work to make them permanent. Through hundreds of
congressional meetings, a Senate sign-on letter, and over 200 pieces of media, we helped push for exactly that. While an extension to these changes wasn't signed into law in 2021, the White House proposal, House-passed recovery act, and nearly half the Senate were on the record in agreement headed into the new year.

**Increasing access to rental assistance**

As Congress debated its recovery package throughout 2021, rental assistance was on the chopping block more than once – but RESULTS and our partners pushed back. Three congressional sign-on letters, media, and detailed work with congressional aides helped protect those investments – including in the House-passed package that included $22 billion in funding to support new vouchers for low-income renters. We closed out the year pushing to get the bill into law and reminding Congress that far more is needed to tackle the crisis of affordability, evictions, and homelessness that continues.

**Rallying congress**

On the way to the victories described above, we were building the base of support in Congress, moving lawmakers onto the record and into action. RESULTS advocates rallied dozens upon dozens of members of Congress to publicly declare their support for each of these major goals:

**Doubling U.S. funding for nutrition globally** – 135 Bipartisan Members of Congress

**Tripling U.S. funding for the fight against tuberculosis** – 109 Bipartisan Members of Congress

**A multiyear pledge to the Global Partnership for Education** – 117 Bipartisan Members of Congress

**Expanding U.S. rental assistance** – 176 Members of Congress

**Scaling up global access to COVID vaccines** – 115 Members of Congress

**Advocacy led by people with firsthand expertise on poverty**

RESULTS Experts on Poverty continued to shape decisions on Capitol Hill and guide the country toward more equitable policy with their firsthand expertise. In videos, at conferences, on Capitol Hill, and in the media, the Experts on Poverty shared their personal and professional expertise on anti-poverty policies, and how advocacy organizations and policymakers can better center people with lived experience of poverty. Learn more about their work.
A global network of advocacy partners

As RESULTS worked to influence the U.S. government, locally-rooted ACTION partners were doing the same across more than a dozen countries on five continents. This network of advocates moved national, regional, and global leaders into action on health equity and the response to the pandemic. Learn more about the ACTION partnership’s collective impact on equitable access to vaccines, tuberculosis, and nutrition at www.action.org, or see the ACTION year in review here.