**RESULTS Joint U.S./Global Grassroots Webinar – July 2016**

Executive Director Joanne Carter: It is fun to hear you as we connect. I want to welcome you to the July conference call. For those I was just with, it was great. For those who couldn't we missed you.

This call is special first because it includes global and domestic workers. We are only on calls together a couple times per year. Secondly, we don't have an expert today. We want to hear from you. The annual conference is a moment where we have a lot of collective effect on the issues we care about.

We want to have you share experiences. This was clear at the conference. For doing democracy, you are the experts in this work. Your congressional meetings are laboratories for democracy. In persistence, telling our stories, encouraging others, breaking through stereotypes. It is some of the most important work in the world.

I heard the power and importance in what you are doing, and making democracy live. We heard the need to keep building the movement for change. Dr. Paul Farmer, physician and co-founder of Partners in Health was at the conference. He has been on a number of calls but still didn't have a full sense. He said afterwards that he has never been to a political convention like the national ones, but it reminded him of that. This is the kind of convention he said he wanted to be a part of.

Our 2016 conference was the largest in history. We had over 580 people. Over 600 were registered by the end. That included partners and allies from all over. We had a great new group of leaders starting fellowships. We had a group of leaders from partner countries, taken by the model. We had our leaders from previous years back. We had a fantastic group of experts.

We focused on the critical issues now. I look forward to hearing more about the impact you all had. I know the amazing bipartisan support you generated. To accelerate the end of preventable death worldwide. You did great work at the conference. I am excited that, when we had the senator from Maryland at the kickoff, he said we should pass the Reach Act this year. Senator Cardin is the ranking Democrat for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. That was an exciting statement by a person like him.

Dr Mark Dybul joined us from Italy. He is clear the role we play in making sure we are fully funded. We had strong support. The world will now determine if we end these epidemics. You may have heard from Zimbabwean activist and advocate Loyce Maturu on these issues.

At our reception, we heard [from Senator Brown] on the earned income tax credit. It is important for hundreds of conversations for going further and taking the next step to expand the earned income tax credit. I was struck when he talked about telling our stories. He said it was important and a big part of our effectiveness. He said after that it was an amazing and effective organization.

How can we have the biggest impact on the racial wealth gap? We started with offices to better understand. One in four kids on the planet grow up physically or mentally stunted. Digging into what most effectively reached people in our own country and around the world.

That is a piece of the work you do all year. We will talk about this through the call, but the most important thing we can do is request meetings during July and August recess. This is a time to build on the relationships you built.

Those face-to-face meetings will be some of the most important things we can do. I want to end with a message I got during the conference from a former results staff person. He says it seems every day I read or watch someone insisting normal people don't have a voice, that government is out of reach. I see people reinforcing and exploiting this. The frustrations are real, but when people say they have no power they are wrong. Results proves how much power we have as citizens. These are some of the most valuable lessons I learned. I wanted to demonstrate these lessons to others. It is so important, especially now.

You will hear some of the lessons in doing democracy to have more of an impact. I will turn the call over to Beth Wilson to let you know about the election. I want to thank the three candidates. We were honored you were willing to serve on the board. It was a hard choice. I want to thank Lydia Pendley for her service to the board. I will turn over to Beth.

Beth Wilson, Grassroots Board Member: Our board chair regrets he is unable to join us as he is on a flight. He asks me to convey the following message: Lydia Pendley has served for six years. She has lead the process to upgrade the bylaws. She completed two terms and we are holding an election for her position. Thank you Lydia for her service. Her contribution has been outstanding.

The grassroots members are pleased to share the results. Maxine Thomas is the winner, with three candidates. We are grateful for them stepping up. We welcome Maxine and are sure she will be successful.

Thank you for voting and staying in touch with the board members to be sure we represent. Thank you very much.

Ken Patterson, Director of Global Grassroots Advocacy: Congratulations, we have elected a great one. I am Ken Patterson, director of grassroots global advocacy. It was great to see you in DC. The success was a team effort. All the advocates, our partner organizations, and everyone who prepared by letter-writing, setting meetings, generating media, building relationships with staff. Congratulations.

We would like to hear from you. From veteran volunteers and advocates, new advocates, first time attendees, real changers, and those who participated from afar. I will allow you to unmute your line and talk. If you are not talking, please keep the line muted. If you are on the phone, star one, we can hear you. Please keep it brief. We will have a lot of people share their experience. There were things happening in different conferences.

You might share what you learned, someone who inspired you, a breakthrough in person and political power, or a highlight from the conference. I have unmuted if you want to share what happened. Go ahead and say your name.

John Hornby: I am from Washington. So many of the speakers were inspiring. A couple were Tavis Smiley and Lawrence Haddad, who I got to meet at the end of their talks. That personal connection felt like I got a piece of them.

Angel from Atlanta: This was my first conference, I received help. I learned about building relations. I realize how important it is. For representatives and the members of the group. I learned through workshops and seeing people interacting. Building relationships and keeping those. It gave me confidence in the reality of the examples. Real people from real places that were effected and helped. It helped me to hear about the hospital. The medicine, the situation. It helped me see how the work we are doing might not seem like anything, but it makes a difference and impacts people.

Ken Patterson: I think pointing out relationships is critical. Thanks for that. Who would like to share next?

Lindsay in Raleigh: A few tidbits. This was my second conference. 2.5 years in results. I am the group leader in Raleigh. For me, it was cool to return to seeing people I am still in touch with from last year. I loved meeting new people. I loved the speakers. I chose to go in with a blank slate. He really left an impression on me. The workshop I attended changed my perspective. That led me to attend a vigil.

I enjoyed seeing people experience the conference for the first time then coming back to the congress offices. Having other people jump in and take the lead, get excited. Those four things resonated with me.

Ken Patterson: I appreciate that. Colorado hit all nine offices for the first time, congratulations to the entire group. Who else?

Beth: two things come to mind. Stunting is a new issue we heard about. I was grateful for that. 1 in 4 children are stunted, that is a big deal. Thank you for that.

Michael from Utah: I learned about owning white privilege. That hit home. I own that now. I will use that to make a difference in the world. I was doing it before, but I have this whole conversation on using that to make a difference. Tavis Smiley and the global poverty experts were great.

One person can and does make a difference. We met in Salt Lake with members of congress. To meet in Capitol Hill was a whole experience.

Gail Dolson, Marin County: Ghis was my 23rd conference, and the best I have gone to in all my years. I was very inspired by Smiley and Dr. Farmer, but I came away with a rejuvenation of my ability to influence the media. I had given that up. I am inspired now to get through. It is a way to reach a lot of people. I am committed to getting this op-ed in a paper, if not more. I am excited about that.

Ken Patterson: you will be published. Congratulations. Let's hear from Ben in Miami.

Ben: I wanted to go back to Tavis Smiley and then seeing him on Conan. I was so surprised I tweeted it. I wanted to talk about going through the hallways that so many have walked through and seeing someone interviewed by CNN. It was my first time in DC, but it was still cool. I wanted to note that. Seeing FIU statues warmed our hearts.

Peter, San Jose: tagging from Beth Wilson, I was struck by conversations about stunting, social protection, graduation programs. These are obvious things now. Why haven't we done that before? This is my 25th conference. I realize because we have lay the groundwork for no more stunting. That wasn't something we could imagine 10-20 years ago.

We can change the world, and we have an obligation to take that knowledge and use it.

Andy Clark: for me it was a moment in time. A lobby day get-together for a one hour talk. Carolyn got some of us up to sing. Before I knew it, everyone was singing. It was overpowering community. It was emotional. Thank you Carolyn.

Meredith Dodson: we will do a definition of stunting so we are familiar with that term.

Joanne Carter: stunting is measured by a low height for age. That is the visible marker of undernourishment. Kids who are ill. Kids without stimulation, kids in toxic environments. It shows up as being short. It is a marker of fewer neural connections. People will be in some ways permanently excluded from the new economy. It is the impact of all of that, and how it shows up. It is a marker of social and economic exclusion.

Justin, first time attendee: In the workshops we did examples of how we should call into the radio station. Just having that learning to call in and what to say was a big help. With the meetings on lobby day, the biggest thing I noticed was informing them about snap program. The block grant. Some didn't know about it. It was good to know we raised that awareness. That was a big plus.

Hearing the other RESULTS members who have been, and how they shared stories, really rubbed off on me.

David: it was interesting to have people on SNAP testify. The statement of being yelled at when using a SNAP card. I have seen stories in newspapers. I didn't know it was that widespread. It made me angry, and to want to help even more.

Ken Patterson: this shows the power of a multigenerational organization. These offices don't know these things until someone talks with them about it. This is the end of this section. There are other things to share. Look at the listserv, check the blog.

There was an injection of energy and inspiration. We have a lot of work to do it with. I will turn over to Lisa Marchal who will talk about follow up.

Lisa Marchal, Senior Global Grassroots Associate:. I wanted to say hello for the global grassroots side. It was a pleasure to meet so many of you in DC. For those who see the chat box, a great brief description of a block grant is there.

Just a few follow-up reminders. The power of the conference lives on. The resources live on. As we say in RESULTS, the meeting is not done until follow-up is completed. That empowers us for the next step.

A few things you can see on the screen. The link to the conference resources is still live on the website. You can grab those helpful resources, copies of presentations, will be living there. The meeting is not done until you have a yes or a no. If you plan a party, you can't do arrangements or catering, with a list of maybes. You can't pivot from that.

Follow up on the requests until you have a yes or no. Report your meetings in the lobby report from. There are links online, in the webinar here, where you can record what happened in the meeting. That is helpful as we see where we have come and are going. In so many ways, that sharing of what happens helps all of us to know what the next moves are that we need to make. It helps the offices. When we follow up. We serve as a resource for the offices we meet with.

The International Conference lives on in social media. The hashtag is #Voices4RESULTS. You can go to Flickr and Storify. We capture photos and stories of what happened. Use it to do outreach. I know Jim is in Contra Costa. They have done an outreach meeting. Use the stories, talk about advocates back home. We backstopped the work and support each other. We have a recess in House and Senate from July 18th to Labor Day where we can follow up face-to-face, and get answers. As you see in the chat, there are extra resources for you. Report the lobby day meetings. Go online. Check out #voices4results. Share media, stories, experiences. Look at the Flickr and Storify. Use the conference to do outreach. Tell the story, bring people to the power.

Ken Patterson: On the global side, in terms of campaign updates, great work in the conference. We have ten new co-sponsors on the REACH act. Two are republicans. This is your work. We want to stay with this, make it impossible for the house not to work other. The others are listed on the screen. Congratulations. You helped gather twelve signers on the senate global fund letter. Making great progress, congratulations.

The Global Fund letter has been modified. The recipient is not the president, but Senator Kerry. We have an additional lead. The deadline has been extended to Friday the 15th. We have this week to work diligently to Secretary Kerry. We ask you to write to the president or the secretary of state and use the letter as a template. Since Congress will be in recess, it would be great to have letters before. We ask members to write letters to the president or secretary so they can do it during the recess. We have an extra window to ask them to write on the Global Fund.

On the lobby report form, we use this information. I was on a coalition call with our Reach Act partners. We were going through members and where we were with them. We drew on the lobby reports to let people know what you did. Sometimes we were unable to provide that intelligence to the coalition. The lobby reports were often incomplete. This information is critical in moving the campaign forward. It is critical in creating political will. Give us details on what works, what did, etc. If you want to go back and fix things, you can send information. We can do it, or you can submit a new form. We will find a duplicate.

Meredith Dodson, Director of U.S. Poverty Campaigns: Hello from DC. It was great to see you. Thrilled so many of you made a point of coming. Thank you for taking action online, setting up meetings, it is a group effort. I want to shout out to Maxine, our new grassroots member. We had about eight people with speaking roles. I wanted to thank them for shaping our work. This is an important time to request face to face meetings.

I sleep with this under my pillow, the data from congressional management about strategies that influence congress. You can see the top right, in person visits have more impact than any other strategy. With congress in recess, we have opportunities to get to members and candidates. When I dug up a good copy of the visual, I found another visual that reinforced the importance of getting in from back home. The work home was critical in seeing what shaped the views of congress. On Thursday I was on Capitol Hill about the earned income tax credits.

We have an opportunity to expand income tax credit. Maximum EITC. This includes younger workers, and older workers who are not raising their kids. In slide 14 you can see the different proposals to expand the earned income tax credit. I urge you to talk about the proposal from Brown in the house to expand EITC.

When you have more time to sit down, and can really dig in, you can see that. You also see backgrounds on the importance of building savings. 44% of Americans can't live three months on savings. That is more egregious in communities of color. It is important to talk to policymakers.

That is a quick recap of what is going on and why the work you do in following up with the offices you met with, and making these issues visible and important is really critical. We will go to Kristy in the northeast to talk about getting candidates.

Kristy Martino, U.S. Campaigns Grassroots Organizer: I am excited to talk to you. There is an exciting presidential election. This training can prepare you to take advantage of town halls, debates, etc. I would say that the goal is to get a candidate on record. It is a great opportunity to educate the public. You can spread awareness, good information, correct stereotypes, etc. You are welcome to reach out to me. Keep an eye out for training on the calendar.

You can't ask an important question until you have a venue. Town halls we talk about. Members of congress can be cagey about that. See if anything is planned. There is great insider information. They will announce. That is a great way to keep track. Call town hall directly. Check the schedule. There are public appearances in your area. If you follow on Facebook you can connect easily. They do the introduction, work locally on the ground. Get on email lists. It is really important.

There are television and radio opportunities for you. Special events for independent voters. News station, radio station. We had a session about calling into the stations. NPR will do things, call in and ask questions.

Networks that broadcast are requesting questions from viewers on social media. Another opportunity to have a well formed question. Arrive early. An hour or two early. It is strategic. Where you sit is crucial for getting called on. They will have mics. If you set next to that you have a better chance to get in the queue.

Looks are important. Notice the venue. Is it conservative, can you grab a button? You want to pay attention and appear friendly. No one will call on you if you look angry or make an outburst. That won't create success. Bring friends, spread out. This increases chances. If you have 5-6 friends, and half of you are called on, and you can expand and share information it is a better opportunity.

If you remember nothing else: first, fast, and high. As soon as you hear the request for questions, be that eager beaver. There is always the kid. I was. Raise your hand. Let's say you are called on. It is important to be prepared. This is high adrenaline. Practice your question beforehand. Get the words out. Speak slowly and loudly. You can use the laser talk tool. Make an engaging statement. Imagine starting with "no American should be taxed into poverty." Others might not be aware of that. The candidate might. Policymakers want to stick to their agenda, don't let them evade. If they haven't taken the mic, make sure you get a clear response. If they veer, re-direct and ask again.

You maybe didn't get called on but showed up early. There are some other places. Work the handshake line. Be patient, be assertive. Hold on to the hand until you get to the response. This is why my photos look bad. Because I am in the middle of a sentence asking a question. You have staff hanging around. They are recognizable. Follow up with them. Media will be there. You can point those folks out. They might be in a special section. Linger by the cameras. Someone will come up and ask what you thought. You can reframe the question.

You can work it into the media. When this happens, don't leave it at town hall. It is important to share. It is important to bring friends. There is a lot of adrenaline pumping. When I first did this I was excited. I blacked out. If you have someone capturing that or writing notes, it is good to have. Share, get that photo, tag the candidates, or use it for an op-ed or letter to the editor.

Move to New Hampshire! They love politics, I was grateful to see the presidential candidates. Check your local area, keep up with close races. Take a chance. It is really exciting. You can find more resources and trainings, or contact me directly. Thank you.

Mark Campbell, Global Health Associate: I don't know if you see me. I am excited to join after seven years volunteering. To have the opportunity to close out with reminders. Don't forget to do the follow up, get the lobby reports in, look for face to face opportunities. If you have new folks interested, we have introductory calls on the website. Our next webinars will be 12:30 pm ET Saturday, August 13th for domestic, and 2:00 pm ET for global call. Make sure to let us know where you are. Leave that in a chat or send an email. Finally as we say goodbye, let's hear from everyone.

[End of meeting.]