RESULTS The Power to End Poverty

November 2018 Global National Webinar

2:00-3:00 p.m. EST

Saturday, November 10, 2018

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Ken Patterson: We will get started momentarily.

John Fawcett: Welcome, everyone! Less than a week ago although the pace of the new cycle makes it seem like it could have been a month ago. But less than a week ago Americans went to the poll to vote for their representatives. We know it is the work in between that makes lasting changes to fight global poverty. We have a great guest to help us impact that election. We will give it a quick second. We wanted to share a video that we have released that makes this case that folks should be paying attention through elections and not just on election day. Can you cue that up, Ken?

[Video.]

The sound does not seem to be working. Please share that with your networks and guests. It is a great case for Results.

I will introduce our guest this month. Jon Stivers is the Vice President of International Affairs of the Sheraden group. He specializes in foreign policy and international development, global health and appropriations. He was nominated by President Obama and served as assistant administrator for international government. He has played a key leadership role in groundbreaking legislative initiatives.

I have a distinct recollection of meeting Jon at the time leader Pelosi's office with Joel from San Francisco talking about the replenishment of the global fund for AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. Jon said if we could get over 100 senators on the letter then that Nancy Pelosi would hand that letter to the president to support a global fund pledge. It led to the multi year pledge back in 2010. It is a pleasure to have him on to think about the implications of a divided government. How are we going to engage and build champions in freshman representatives that we have and a newly empowered democratic majority and a senate where they have kept the majority. It looks a bit different than it has on the previous one. We appreciate your expertise.

Jon Stivers: Thank you, John. Good morning to all of you around the country and the world. I have had a chance to work with Results for two decades now. Thank you for always coming in with specific things you are asking for. It is hard to get down to something specific and something that can be accomplished. We all think that we should be doing so much more on all these issues globally. It is harder to narrow that down to something specific. We need strong advocacy.

There is nothing more convincing to a member of congress than hearing the voice of their own constituents. It is true that constituent advocacy at the grassroots level is the most important. It does make a difference. Continue to note that even though we are in such a weird and disconcerting political environment these days. We are about to usher in 2019. There will be a very unique political environment than this country has ever seen with congress. We will have a strong democratic majority in the House of Representatives for the first time since 2010. There will continue to be a Republican Majority in the senate. It looks like there will be 235 democrats in the House of Representatives. Its quite considerable.

We have not had this in a long time. I don't think it has ever happened in modern history with a Democratic House and a Republican senate.

It will be different. What will this mean for your advocacy? In terms of what the House will look like, I expect that Nancy will have a race for the speaker. I expect the current ranking members of the committees should become chairmen of their committees. You will have very strong chairmen and chairwomen who will be strong advocates for the issues results advocates for. The democratic congress will be the majority, minority of women. There is over 100 women in congress. It is just a start. It will be a good thing for congress to have on the republican and democratic side. Two Muslim women were elected. The first two native American women were just elected.

Some individuals who have a lot of history and knowledge of these issues are in great shape to be champions when they get here. In regards to international government specifically, the past few years have been an exercise in advising reforms and cuts. Plenty of us we thought could jeopardize sustainable government. In the senate, we had Lindsay Graham pushing back hard on the drastic ill advised trust. Republicans and democrats ignored the president's request. A lot of work had to be done in the preceding decade. We should all feel good about the advocacy done that staved off what could have been a bad two years. Now we have gotten past that point. Now we can think about how we can make gains like we have had.

Global health funding has been stagnant since 2010 since the republicans have had the house. We have a chance to wipe out diseases and make more progresses on AIDS and tuberculosis. The list goes on and on. Now is the time to figure out how to do that more effectively. We do have a democratic house and it will be assertive on these issues. We have a new chairman and we think about the issues that they may care about more. The answer to these issues are stronger development issues that are carefully targeted and effectively administered. Congressional support is consolidated we have a lot of important battles ahead.

I worry there are some real worry signs on the horizon. There are reports from the administration that they will be more assertive. We are chipping away to this economic growth. Our gains will not be sustainable. Results has always been good about advocating for the balance. It will be a good issue moving forward.

I think it is important that we continue to make the case to members of congress that these are priorities. The democrats have a long list of priorities, most of them domestic that will have higher priorities.

I think it would be better if we open it up for questions and talk about what you would like to discuss more specifically.

\*6 can unmute your line if you are on the phone. Shoot away!

Willy Wilkerson: Do you have an opinion on the status of the Reach Every Mother and Child Act and its possibility of passing?

John Stivers: The support for the Reach Act is impressive. The hope that we had earlier in the year was that we could try to get approved to the stimulations unit. We can jam it through the house. That is what I thought would be the only way forward. There were threats of prolife riders that got a lot of cold feet for a lot of folks in terms of bringing the bill forward. This could move quickly and then we could get momentum from the senate. I am pessimistic about Reach moving forward in that.

John Fawcett: The Sheraden group has been an important partner in advancing the Reach Act.

Cindy Lebbin: How do we figure out how to reach out to new senators?

Any advice or opportunities on how to connect with these offices?

John Stivers: In January they will have their offices. They should still have their campaign offices open. If there is any relationship there, you could reach out to them there. There should be contact information that should be out there soon. We could all have phone numbers listed on the government website. They will have a lot on their plate to say the least in terms of organizing democratic caucus and getting their offices and hiring their staff. It is not a good time to reach out to them on some of these policies issues because they will be so unsettled. I think you should not be so worried if you can't reach out to them during that time because they are going to be so busy.

John Fawcett: Other questions for folks? You can put them in the chatbox.

Senator Young is an Indiana republican and has been good on some developmental issues. He recognized the importance of local diseases. I find it interesting how some democrats focus more on poverty issues. We found this true with Senator Donnelly. What opportunities do you see with other republicans? How do you approach that argument? Is there any specific new or renewed things you may see with republican offices?

John Stivers: The link is easy to make. The general make that argument. The Secretary of Defense makes that argument. Economic development, health, and prosperity of the people are essential to that. Whether it is quotes, or just more persuasively making that link and showing that if you have a functioning health care system in certain countries you can avoid problems in those countries in terms of regional stability and those issues. I think you all know these issues well. It is making that case effectively is very important.

John Fawcett: We will wrap up this section of the call. I might offer the inverse of that question as a way to offer a final comment. You mentioned this whole new class of freshman. There is a group of progressive house democrats coming in. We don't want to take their support for international affairs for granted.

Jon Stivers: Immigration is such a hot button issues. We have people out there upset. One of the answers to that issue is economic development and to do better work in these countries. If we can tackle corruption and the crime problems then that will help us avoid some of the migration issues happening there. We are trying to diversify what they are trying to do in congress. You have to link it to what is going on with their district. The more progressive folks main issues is that the global income inequality is an essential driving issue of our time. Development goes to that. Globally it is on steroids. As progressive members explain their issues and philosophies, we have to think about how global health can get at those priorities.

A lot of these members won that race of New York and I don't know if she has an international background but her philosophy could make her a great advocate with the right outreach. You have great members already here in congress. For some of these members that have been domestically focused during their careers but are on the liberal side it is a great place to start advocacy. Those members would welcome Results and the priorities you advocate for with open arms.

John Fawcett: Thank you for sharing your thoughts.

Jon Stivers: I would like to mention the China question. We are focusing on China's global aid work. Some of the conservative members provided risk free loans to go into some of these areas and was a way to compete with China's development. China is a great argument to the Trump administration. We don't do things the way China does it. The best way is to do what we do better and more. China is a crucial issue in supporting this.

John Fawcett: I remember they were asking questions about China. Thank you so much. We have a lot of questions. So we will end this section.

In just a minute I will turn it over to Ken for Grassroots Cafe. He will talk about some of the resources we have.

There is a great question in the chat about representative Riker from the Seattle area leaving. That is a long trend of moderate republican chnpns that are either retiring or losing their election bids. That will be a big challenge for us and also an opportunity. The media has been paying attention to which districts flipped from republican to democratic. It is not necessarily a seat that has flipped. We want to break down the freshman class and think about ways to engage. We have freshman republicans as well. I am intrigued about this class of democrats in congress that maybe were elected in 2008 or 2010 but they have never been in the majority. I am thinking of Karen Bass, Grace Ming and a good list of folks that have strong track record for our issues. They will be committee chairmen or sub chairmen. We can start talking about meeting face to face with congress.

The only other thing I wanted to touch on was that we are not done with this congress yet. Congress has important business when it comes to DC. At the very top of that list is finishing off the appropriations bill. Many of you have been taking action on that by asking a member of congress or staff to weigh in with tuberculosis funding. I appreciate the reports of folks that have taken action on that. If there is legislative action we can take, it would be to talk to the leadership of the house and senate foreign operations sub committee. We will see what happens with the appropriations bill. We are optimistic that we can secure those higher funding levels.

Thanks again. There are still some great questions in the chat which I will try to get to.

Ken Patterson: Thanks, John and John Stivers. It was great to set the tone for the upcoming year. I want to start by reminding everyone where we have been so far. We started the year out with the Letters Get Loud campaign. We put them on social media. We moved the letters to the international conference in July. Now we are in this post election of the year. It has huge opportunities for us. It is developing relationships with new members of congress, welcoming our existing members of congress to the new congress. It will really require us to initiate our issues. There will be challenges. We know the president will propose having the problems we are working on.

We have opportunities in our communities as well. Results uses volunteer match. We use that to recruit expansion leads. Volunteer match just did a review of the data that they find through their website. Here is a couple of points to point out. There is new civic duty around the elections. They get more uptake then. This is a good time to engage with people. November is one of the best months of the year to recruit new people. The best days are Monday-Thursday. Now is also a good time to contact people who have previously may have expressed interest. That could be people who have done outreach events as well. It is likely they will be more interested. It is a perfect time to get to the mailing list.

This is a great opportunity to engage new people. What makes this so great? We will walk through a conversation with Lisa Marchal. What does it sound like?

Lisa are you there?

Lisa Marchal: I am. I will be on the phone with you.

Ken Patterson: election season is over and it was a big one. Now is when the work really begins.

Lisa Marchal: I am discouraged to hear you say that. I am exhausted. Obviously, I want to keep going but we have a brand new legislature and we are starting from scratch. We have folks that have stated that they are not really for our antipoverty platforms. We want to keep going. We are a little overwhelmed.

Ken Patterson: Things happen because we tell members of congress what we care about. I have learned through my involvement with results that things happen because we meet with them in person. It happens because we demand it to happen after the election. It is up to us to hold our new members of congress accountable.

Lisa Marchal: Legislators tend to be against our platforms. We need to let them know there are constituents that are for it. I need to get my energy up for it. Let me know when the next meeting is and I can maybe make it.

Ken Patterson: We have found over and over that the time after the elections is the critical time to be talking to our members of congress and developing relationships with them and really letting them know what we want them to be doing in the world. I look forward to getting you involved.

Lisa Marchal: Thanks for thinking of me.

Ken Patterson: In any case, this is one approach you can take with people. Let them know that the people in congress we have hired to work for us and we pay their salaries. Some one needs to supervise these folks if they are going to be on the job for us. That is us. Don't let the fatigue to be the end of the story for folks.

There are a couple of things in terms of these opportunities. The broadcast media is another one. There has been radio interviews to get the word out. The volunteer match is another opportunity. The staff placed ads in all your groups for volunteer maps the day after election. Now our expansion team are filling the inquiries and educating about results and having the initial conversation with them. They are getting all the pre work of getting them set with you. We are assessing their needs and figuring out what they care about and what difference they need to make.

Catie is going to help us.

Catie: It is great to be here. There are email notifications for groups you are interested in. I was drawn to the results ad because it said we could help relationships of members of congress. Joining a group or movement of people committed to ending poverty was important to me. I can't think of a more fundamental cause to be into. I had never engaged my members of congress. I scheduled face to face meeting with her. I had wanted to do a webinar because I could tell she was passionate. The first video conference we had was very well organized. It was very informative. It was efficient. I was very impressed with how everything was organized. I have already learned so much.

I set up a meeting with my representatives office to talk about the Reach Act. He is already a cosponsor. It was a nice friendly meeting. I am very excited to keep learning and hopefully meet with another representative at the end of the month.

Ken Patterson: Thank you so much for sharing your experience. Katie said that she was looking for an experience to make a difference. She was also very excited about the opportunity to learn new things and have a breakthrough experience. She was looking for someone to respond quickly. That impressed her as well.

They want to make a difference. They want to have relationships with people. Then they really want to be given the opportunity to do things they may have never done before. The question is . . . is your group ready to provide this.

Katie: The information was so thorough.

Ken Patterson: Another opportunity we have is the virtual Thanksgiving Feast. Mia will spell this out for us.

Mia: It is nice to see you. Hi, everyone. As Ken said I will be talking about thanksgiving fundraising. This is a time to secure our most important funding. We can gear up for 2019. This year the 2018 virtual thanksgiving feast has a few new features. We have notebooks and special T-shirts for people who reach their goals. There is a video on the website right now showing you how to set up your fundraising page and more special announcements to come. More than 40% have fundraised for results. If your group hasn't, here is a great chance to join the fun. We have 13 fundraisers already signed up for the virtual Thanksgiving Feast.

I want to give a special shoutout to the Dallas group who has already reached $1000 fundraising goal. I hope you will reach out with questions. I will turn it over to Marty White in the Dallas group.

Go ahead, Marty.

Marty: Can you hear me? Good. Hi, everyone. The Dallas group believes in engaging our friends and family in what we do as an integral activity. When one of our friends or family ask what we are up to, it is a pleasure to tell them about our projects. They know we are passionate about what we do and I think they are happy to be engaged so when we come to them to ask for funds, they feel like they are a part of what we are doing and what we are about. They also not only supply us with energy but also have other people be funders of Results provide our team with resources and a testimony to what Results is accomplishing.

We are sure that we want to engage these people. If they want to become activists, we will take them on right away. They play an important role in what we do. Our own Dallas team we hope that each team member recognizes that their involvement in fundraising is another manifestation of their passion and commitment. We have gotten into a recent pattern of alternating a fundraising event annually that last year. We receive tremendous support and encouragement from Mia. Thank you. I tell you that at this point we have gone over our goal. We have already raised $4750 in just a few days. Thanks to all.

Mia: Thank you so much Marty for all your efforts and encouraging others to join you. Back you, Ken.

Ken Patterson: Thank you for blazing the trail there for us. There is a lot of post election engagements right now. I encourage you to brainstorm about how you will take advantage of the post election season and interest through the volunteer match or the broadcast media or through the virtual Thanksgiving Feast. There are a lot of things we can be doing. A lot of people are wanting to be involved. It is just about offering them the opportunity. I am glad that I found results. It changed my life. I think it is that way for a lot of people. We have been able to do things we never though we could do. Anytime you offer somebody an opportunity it is great. Keep that in your heart.

Remember that if they don't want to do that right now that is okay. There are different ways that people can participate. I will hand things over to Lisa Marchal.

Lisa Marchal: we want you to see the cumulative effort of what you have done. This is a reminder that your reporting is key. There are so many of you that your self recording keeps our numbers accurate. You have met with the House 339 times and that includes face to face and with aids. [On screen.]

Keep recording! We are teaming up and coming out of the gate strong to build the relationships with members of congress coming in post election. We know how to do that and we know how crucial that is for us to do. Keep reporting, take the time as Ken said to make your post election plans. Come out of the gate strong in January. Sometimes we can get flat footed because of down time in the winter. Tee up our plans now.

The virtual Thanksgiving Feast is going on now, as mentioned. There is a continual fundraising and a couple of those each month. Our free agents will be meeting on November 19th. We are excited about that. The congressional recess is November 19th and just know the Results office will be closed for thanksgiving. If you have been engaging in the action network community of progress and how things work and how you can utilize them and get them best, they have been meeting on December 5th.

The international conference is the 16th of next year. If you have great ideas, you are more than welcome to keep submitting those and we will have a link for that again. We can update that. We want to remind you that we can take your suggestion. Let us know how many were with you today. Now is the time for you to unmute and wish each other a great month of thanks and gratitude. Let's make it a great month!

[End webinar.]