

# democracy in action hope



### **Impact Report**

October 2023 — September 2024



# We are in the hope business.

By actively practicing democracy, we are bringing a more equitable world closer.

There are few organizations that harness the power of deeply engaged constituent advocates like RESULTS. We are equally unique in our ability to work across the political spectrum and inspire support for programs and policies that reduce poverty and save lives.

As you'll read in this report, RESULTS continues to play a critical role in building champions for the end of poverty despite partisanship and gridlock on Capitol Hill. In hundreds of congressional meetings; in thousands of calls, emails, and letters to Congress; and in nearly one published media piece a day, our advocates have kept crucial priorities such as economic justice for families and communities front and center.

RESULTS' advocacy remains essential and unshakeable — no matter the outcome of any election. It is hopeful and empowering and a profound expression of the best of democracy. And the results are transformational.

Our work is fueled by an amazing network of volunteer advocates and by donors who share our aspiration for a world beyond poverty. Thank you!

66 RESULTS is a hope organization, and you are all in the hope business. You appeal to the better natures of Congress. You change people's lives. You could never put a price tag on that.

— Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)

### Our unstoppable community of change

Building relationships is the key to our success: relationships with our representatives and senators, aides who handle our issues, schedulers, and local office staff. By communicating regularly with these decision makers, meeting with them, and building rapport, we become trusted voices and sources of information. And that's how we ultimately influence them.

In **more than 300 meetings** this past year, RESULTS advocates held in-depth conversations about expanding the child tax credit, nutrition assistance, and affordable housing in the U.S. We asked for increased support for equitable access to vaccines, nutrition, TB programs, and quality primary education globally. We educated candidates at campaign events and other public forums and got them on the record in support of proven solutions to poverty.

We also created relationships with news outlets and the public through opeds and letters to the editor. We sent the **576 media pieces we published** to our members of Congress to demonstrate support for our issues in their districts.

And we brought in new advocates with insight and lived experience of our issues and built new and deeper relationships in our communities. In public events and small gatherings, we inspired our neighbors to raise their voices in our democracy, too.

Turn the page to see our results.











# A win for global child survival

RESULTS' advocacy helped to make history — again — by inspiring the U.S. government to make its largest financial commitment ever to ensure children in countries with low incomes receive vaccines for deadly childhood diseases. In June, First Lady Dr. Jill Biden announced a U.S. pledge of at least \$1.58 billion over five vears to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. The funding will support Gavi's ambitious plan to vaccinate half a billion children and save the lives of more than 8 million children over the next five years. The administration even made the announcement ahead of the Gavi pledging event, which will take place in early 2025, to encourage other donor governments to step up as well.

Image credit: Gavi/2023

### Dr. Theo: "You deserve to live."

As a young mother, Dr. Theopista Jacob Masenge contracted measles. Then it got worse: she passed it to her 6-month-old daughter. "Being both a patient and the desperate mom of a child [in critical condition] was traumatic," the pediatrician from Tanzania shared on a media call sponsored by RESULTS. "This shouldn't happen to any child when there is a vaccine."

RESULTS invited Dr. Theo, a vaccine expert and vice president of the Pediatric Association of Tanzania, to the U.S. to reinforce our push for greater funding for global vaccines. She shared her personal experience and passion at 25 events in four states and Washington, DC, and with reporters at the Baltimore Sun, Devex, NPR, Politico, and Vox.

"As a medical professional, I've never seen any other medical intervention or tool that will save lives like vaccines. We are not just looking at the numbers, we are looking at the real lives saved," she told audiences. "It doesn't matter where you are born, you deserve to live."











U.S. support for child survival programs builds a better world

The number of children dying before age five has fallen to a historic low, thanks in large part to increased access to routine childhood vaccines and nutrition. With U.S. support, in 2023:



### 8.6 million infants



### **RESULTS' superpower**

RESULTS' ability to rally Republicans and Democrats across the political spectrum to support bold action to end poverty is the envy of many organizations. We secure cosponsors for important legislation, and we especially shine at getting members of Congress to show their support for our priorities by adding their names to congressional "sign-on letters." The more members who sign, the stronger the message to House and Senate leaders — or the White House. Thanks to the deep relationships we build with congressional offices, we're able to support the development of these letters and rally signers. It's actions like these that move our issues forward. Here are the results.

66 You are all heroes, knocking on doors...You are doing the incredible work of compelling people to discuss topics that would not resonate normally.

— Dr. Oby Ezekwesili, president of Human Capital Africa and former Minister of Education for Nigeria



### We protected funding for key global poverty programs

During negotiations over the fiscal year 2024 foreign aid budget, we mobilized 226 members of Congress to sign letters in support of robust funding for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; education; maternal and child health, vaccines and nutrition; and the fight against TB. These letters, combined with other advocacy efforts, overcame partisan politics to secure muchneeded funding for key global health, nutrition, and education programs in both the House and Senate.

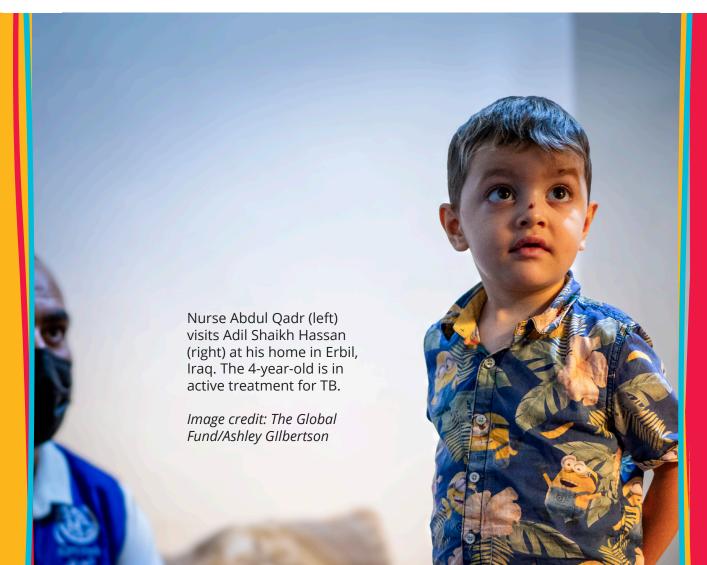
The result: While the fiscal year 2024 budget cut foreign aid spending overall by 6 percent, almost all of our priorities were protected. Funding for child health and vaccines even increased. We were also able to get language added to the funding bill that requires the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to ensure that high-impact maternal and child health interventions reach the most vulnerable communities.



### We rallied Congress to send a message to the White House

Sign-on letters are also a powerful way to get the attention of the White House. We rallied members of Congress to sign letters to the Biden Administration expressing support for bold commitments for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (as shared on the previous page) and Nutrition for Growth (N4G). Hosted every four years, N4G is the flagship international conference for governments, organizations, philanthropies, and others to make financial and policy commitments to end malnutrition.

The deadline for representatives to sign the letter to the Biden Administration calling for a robust pledge to N4G was set for September 12 — but members of Congress were on recess until September 9, making them hard to reach. As soon as the lawmakers returned to DC, we turned on our superpower. Within 48 hours, the number of signers had more than doubled, from 51 to 106! Thanks to the advocacy of "everyday people," the White House knows it has Congress' support to make an ambitious pledge at the next N4G in 2025.





#### We acted to end TB now

Tuberculosis (TB) is the planet's deadliest infectious disease, but it took RESULTS' advocacy to shine a light on this disease of poverty and inspire bipartisan support to address it. Since 2000, we have driven TB funding from less than \$1 million annually to nearly \$400 million in 2024. The combined \$4.7 billion has helped to save over 75 million lives.

RESULTS mobilized more than 90 members of Congress to cosponsor the End TB Now Act, which requires USAID to set bold targets to reach and treat people in the most vulnerable communities. On September 19, 2024, we cheered as the Senate passed the bill with *unanimous bipartisan consent* — an amazing accomplishment in this divisive political moment. Once approved by the House and signed into law, the legislation will catalyze support for new tools to prevent, diagnose, and treat TB.

# The work you do really gives me hope...You recognize across the world, and even in the United States, too many kids are hungry, too many kids are suffering from curable diseases, too many don't have the opportunity to capitalize on education. And importantly, you want to do something about it. 🥦 — Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA)

### A House undivided votes to bolster struggling families

In the midst of seemingly irreconcilable differences in Congress, RESULTS played a key role in a bipartisan breakthrough to expand the Child Tax Credit (CTC) to families struggling to make ends meet. We spoke out, educated lawmakers across the political spectrum, shared stories of hardship and impact, and built support. Together, we found areas of alignment across parties and facilitated dialogue between Republican and Democratic leaders.

By the end of 2023, leaders in the House and Senate had negotiated a bipartisan tax package that included increased support for 16 million children in families with low incomes. When the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024 was introduced in January of 2024, the House approved it 357 to 70 in a remarkable showing of bipartisan support. The Senate later came up short of votes to pass the bill — but it's not over. Getting members of Congress to agree to any expansion of the CTC for low-income families was considered a longshot by many on Capitol Hill. Without RESULTS' work, there wouldn't have been a bill to vote on, much less one that had so much support — nor would we be hearing presidential candidates promising to increase the credit as part of their campaign platforms!

Tax policy will take center stage in Congress next year with the expiration of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. The massive tax overhaul brought benefits to businesses and individuals, including an increase in the amount of the CTC. We'll be raising our voices to demand that any new tax package help families and individuals with lower incomes and increase economic equity, stability, and opportunity.



### Federal renter tax credit solution taking hold

After intensive work to raise awareness and get buy-in for a renter tax credit, we are getting traction in Washington, DC. A federal renter tax credit would **provide relief for millions of renters facing housing instability and homelessness**, similar to how the tax code provides relief and subsidies to homeowners and landlords. RESULTS is now partnering with the National Low Income Housing Coalition to advance the idea in meetings with key Biden Administration officials and members of Congress. We hope to see the concept included in the new administration's economic agenda and a bill introduced in Congress in 2025.



THE LATEST MAGAZINE PURILIC SCHOOLS ADVOCATE OPERS AROUT US SHOP SURSCRIRE DONATE Q

### The Supreme Court Should Be Ashamed for Criminalizing Homelessness

Let me tell you: No one wakes up one morning and chooses to be homeless

BY CHRISTIANA STALNAKER ILLIV 30, 2024 4:31 PI



This commentary by RESULTS volunteer Christiana Stalnaker about a 2024 Supreme Court decision was reprinted in 35 outlets, which, combined, reached over 6.5 million people.

### **Overcoming barriers with a free tax-filing service**

The free IRS-administered tax filing tool, Direct File, launched to great success in 2024. The service allows taxpayers to file their taxes directly with the IRS, alleviating the onerous filing process and costs that keeps millions of families from accessing credits that could help them meet their essential needs, from housing to childcare to transportation. RESULTS advocated for the creation of the tool and helped found the Coalition for Free and Fair Filing to ensure it is permanent and accessible. RESULTS advocates with lived experience of poverty provided feedback on the pilot's design and implementation. After a successful roll-out in 12 states, the IRS plans to make Direct File available nationally over the next few years.

### A boon for low-income taxpayers

The **140,803 taxpayers** who filed federal returns during the Direct File pilot:

Accessed more than

\$90 million
in refunds



Saved an estimated

\$5.6 million

in tax preparation fees

# **Celebrating 10 years of the RESULTS Advocacy** and **Organizing Fellowship**

For a decade, the RESULTS Fellowship has mentored young people to become leaders for equity and the end of poverty. More than 700 dynamic emerging leaders from around the U.S. have taken part in this intensive 11-month training program. They sharpened their advocacy and organizing skills, took action, and descended on Washington, DC to raise their voices for solutions to poverty.

The Fellowship plays an important role in bringing diversity to our network and enriching our leadership. Four of our alumni are now members of RESULTS' staff while three have served on our board. Another 26 serve in volunteer roles as group leaders or regional coordinators. Fellows also go on to pursue careers that improve and save lives locally, nationally, and globally. One alum, for example, now works for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and is helping India's Ministry of Health roll out a new vaccine policy.



#### Where else are they now?

- → 1 works at UNICEF
- → 1 at the World Bank
   → 2 at the United Nations
- → 2 started fellowships focused on climate change
- → 3 work at USAID
- → 8 are staff for members of Congress
- → **10** have started **nonprofits**
- → **21** work in **state government**
- → 32 work for the federal government
- → 44 are attorneys
- → **51** earned **degrees** in public health
- → 95 are doctors or nurse practitioners
- → And so much more!

We can't wait to see what they accomplish in the next decade!

66 I've learned for the first time that members of Congress care very much that their constituents reach out to them and how impactful the voices of constituents are in their decision-making. 99

RESULTS Fellow Diane Karloff



### Fired up and speaking up!

Presidential election years galvanize civic engagement, and we've seen a surge of interest as people look for opportunities to engage beyond voting. There is an urgency: people are fired up about issues of inequality and the ability to take meaningful action.

We're providing new and experienced advocates a way to raise their voices during the election season — and a path forward after the election. No matter the outcome, we will demand that Congress put poverty on its agenda.



Asheville, North Carolina

We held over 60 outreach events during our summer of community action. People learned about our issues and took action to demand adequate funding for anti-poverty programs, action on nutrition and global child health, and economic justice in the tax code.

- 66 Being part of RESULTS has brought me assurance that I do have more power than I thought. We still have an accessible government. We still have a voice. 99
- Mary Lash, RESULTS volunteer and donor



Princeton, New Jersey



Las Vegas, Nevada



Seabeck, Washington

- I don't think there's anything I do that would have a bigger impact on more people than what I do with RESULTS. 99
  - Eloise Sutherland,
     RESULTS volunteer
     and donor



Denver, Colorado

We're grateful to the RESULTS volunteers who also hosted fundraisers with their friends and family to support our work.

# You give us hope!

With your support, we'll keep speaking up until everyone in this country is safe from hunger, housing insecurity, and the trauma that comes with poverty. And until everyone in the world has access to the nutrition, healthcare, and basic education they need to survive and to thrive.

### Ways to amplify your impact

#### Become an Investor in Change

Monthly donors to RESULTS provide a lifeline of support. They ensure we have predictable funding to carry out our mission every day and have an impact all year round. Donating monthly is easy, convenient, and spreads your support over the year, making it easier on your budget and ours.

### Make a gift of assets

You can have an immediate impact on our mission to end poverty by making a gift of stocks, bonds, or mutual funds. Making these gifts is simple and can offer financial benefits to you as well as to RESULTS. Generous supporters have also donated property to further our work.

#### Double your gift through an employer match

One of the easiest ways to increase your giving is through an employer matching gift program. Some employers even match donations made by spouses, retirees, and board members. Check with your company's human resources department for details.

To learn more about these and other ways to increase your impact, visit results.org/donate/ways-to-give.



Donate any time at **results.org/donate** or use this QR code.

### Join RESULTS' Legacy Society for a future of results

Your dedication to ending poverty can extend beyond your lifetime with a planned gift to RESULTS Educational Fund, our 501(c)(3). By supporting a healthy, thriving future for RESULTS, you help to ensure a more equitable and healthy future for all. And now is a great time to make the commitment. **We've set a bold goal to invest in the future of RESULTS:** we want to welcome 45 new members to our Legacy Society for our 45th anniversary in 2025.

Anyone of any age or income can include RESULTS in their will or as a beneficiary of a retirement plan. As a thank you, all new and existing members of RESULTS' Legacy Society will receive a limited-edition notebook. For more information, contact Melissa Strobel, RESULTS Director of Development, at development@results.org.





66 RESULTS has been a major inspiration on our lives for more than 30 years. Giving to RESULTS feels good.

And your impact grows! >>

— Alan and Ellen Newberg, donors and volunteers

RESULTS Educational Fund received a "Perfect 100" and Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator in 2024.



**RESULTS** 

1101 15th St. NW, Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20005 (202) 783-4800 www.results.org

