



**Welcome to the RESULTS September 2013
U.S. Poverty National Conference Call**

Gearing Up for September Budget Battles

Saturday, September 7, 12:30 pm ET

(888) 409-6709

Welcome from RESULTS Executive Director Joanne Carter



Guest Speaker: Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro

- Represents Connecticut's 3rd District
- First elected to Congress in 1990
- Ranking Member of the House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee, which oversees funding for Head Start, child care, WIC, the Affordable Care Act, and other important programs
- Fierce anti-poverty champion, working to protecting the interests of low-income individuals, children, and families
- In August 2013, circulated a [letter about protecting SNAP](#) and got every Democrat in the House to sign on
- Recently introduced legislation to make the 2009 [Child Tax Credit](#) improvements permanent



Review of the Threats to SNAP

- Senate Farm Bill
 - Senate passed **\$4.1 billion in SNAP cuts** (over ten years) on June 10; nearly 500,000 households would see benefits drop by an average of \$90/mo
- House Farm Bill
 - New SNAP bill would cut SNAP by **\$40 billion over ten years**
 - “Cat E1” cut = **2 million people off SNAP + 210,000 low-income children lose free meals** at school
 - “Heat and Eat” cut = 850,000 households see benefits drop by an average of \$90/mo
 - ABAWDs cut = **2-4 million 18-50 year olds off SNAP** (earn avg \$2,500 per year)
 - Imposes **drug testing, as well as work requirements** on all participants who can work; states can keep half the money saved for kicking people off SNAP
- **SNAP benefits are already set to be cut** automatically on November 1 by an average of \$36/month (family of 4)

Protecting SNAP

- [New 2012 USDA food insecurity data](#) highlights the importance of defeating this bill and protecting and strengthening SNAP
 - **17.6 million households were food insecure** in 2012 (about 49 million people) ; this rate has remained fairly consistent since 2008
 - About **7 million of food insecure households had very low food security**, meaning that people were skipping meals or taking other steps to reduce what they ate because they didn't have enough resources
 - **21.6 percent of children lived in food insecure households**, with about half of them experiencing food insecurity themselves
- House SNAP bill could come up for a vote **as soon as September 12**; only need about 20 Republicans to vote NO to defeat it
- **Very important that we get others taking action this month** – reach out to veterans, churches, senior groups, local businesses, and low-income clients and urge them to join your group in taking action
- **Generate media about protecting SNAP** using our [SNAP media alert](#)

SNAP Advocacy Successes



Anita Lee
Sherman Oaks, CA
San Fernando Valley group recently met face-to-face with their member of Congress



Jami-Lin Williams
Baltimore MD
New volunteer who got a [SNAP op-ed published in her local paper](#); working to start a group in Baltimore

U.S. Poverty Campaigns Update

- Keep urging your House members to **co-sponsor the [Financial Security Credit Act of 2013](#) (H.R. 2917)** (already [22 co-sponsors](#)) using our [online FSC action alert](#).
- **Keep pushing for new investments in [Head Start](#), [Early Head Start](#), and [Child Care](#)** by sending an e-mail to Congress using our [online early childhood alert](#).
- For more details, make sure you bookmark our U.S. Poverty Campaigns Summary page at: http://www.results.org/issues/us_current_campaigns/.
- **Finally, follow up on your August face-to-face requests and set up meeting this fall.** Find scheduler names and contact information on our [Elected Officials page](#) and use our **updated [Lobby Meeting Request letter](#)**.

September Action

Get Others to Take Action This Month!

- RESULTS volunteers have done a fabulous job this year and getting poverty from and center for lawmakers
 - 55 face-to-face meeting so far, and many more meetings with staff
 - 70 media pieces published
- We're getting down to crunch time and we need more people making noise
- House could vote on the Farm Bill as soon as next week
 - Current Farm Bill and FY 2013 budget both expire on September 30
 - Syria resolution will push back the calendar even more meaning things could move very fast when Congress returns to DC next week

September Action

Get Others to Take Action This Month!

- Imagine the impact we could have if we *quintupled* our actions this month
- It's easy to do – **ask 5 people you know to take action**
 - **Make a phone call** on a national call-in day
 - Have people **write letters** and send them in to your members of Congress
 - Urge a community leader to **attend an upcoming congressional meeting** you have scheduled
 - **Send an e-mail** urging Congress to protect and strengthen SNAP
 - **Post a message on Facebook or Twitter** with a link to a call-in number or e-mail alert

Successes in Engaging Others



Ginnie Vogts
Columbus, OH

Has been doing regular letter-writing outreach meetings to get more people into action



Lisa Peters
Washington, DC

Used a fundraiser to also do outreach to grow their group



Kitty Sherlock
Santa Fe, NM

Sponsored a movie and used it to generate letters on SNAP

Advocacy Training – Get Others to Take Action



Kathleen Duncan
Regional Coordinator and
RESULTS Houston volunteer

- **Call up a friend**, send an e-mail or post a Facebook message urging her/him to take action.
- **Highlight what's at stake:**
 - House wants to cut SNAP by \$40 billion; would throw 4-6 million off the program
 - SNAP has been critical for millions of families during the Great Recession
 - Share a story you have about SNAP
- **Tell your friend that her/his voice matters** and that a quick and simple phone call or e-mail to their representative will make a difference.
- **Urge your friend to call their representative and tell him/her to leave a message with the receptionist urging their rep to vote NO on the House SNAP bill. Suggest a day and time to call and provide the phone number.** If it would help, briefly role play a call for your friend.
- **Also ask them to write a letter or send an email** (via laptop or smartphone) on the spot to amplify the message.
- **Thank your friend and ask if its OK to follow up** to see how the call went. When you follow up, be sure to congratulate!

Roll Call



Welcome Zahara Heckscher! Our newly-hired RESULTS New England Organizer

Zahara's background as an organizer includes student activism in the anti-apartheid movement, legislative advocacy with the Save Darfur Coalition, and serving as executive director for a small organization dedicated to youth civic engagement. The co-author of *How to Live Your Dream of Volunteering Overseas*, Zahara has volunteered in Nicaragua, Zambia, in Zanzibar. She has also worked as a longtime volunteer with RESULTS. She grew up in Massachusetts, went to college at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, and maintains strong connections in the New England region. She is currently based in Washington, DC but will travel to New England frequently in her role as RESULTS domestic organizer for the New England region. zheckscher@results.org

- 1. How many people are in the room?**
- 2. How many others will your group get to take action to protect key anti-poverty programs, especially SNAP, this month?**

Announcements

We are still working to start new RESULTS U.S. Poverty groups. If you know people interested in RESULTS in these or other places, please contact us!

- RESULTS Outreach Meeting in **Kansas City, MO on September 18**.
www.tinyurl.com/RESULTSKC. Contact Jos Linn at jlinn@results.org for details.
- RESULTS Outreach Meeting in **Albuquerque, NM on September 18**.
Contact Myrdin Thompson at mthompson@results.org for details.
- RESULTS Outreach Meeting in **Lexington, KY on October 5**.
Contact Myrdin Thompson at mthompson@results.org for details.
- Zahara is working to start groups in **New Hampshire and Maine** and will be in those states **September 28 – October 1**. Help her hit the ground running by connecting her to people you know there (zcheckscher@results.org, (202) 489-8908).
- RESULTS groups in **Boston, MA, Burlington, VT, Orange County, CA, and Malibu, CA** are currently in “new group” training.

Please complete our online Lobby Meeting Report Form for each meeting in DC and during the August recess. Important for follow-up and providing you support.

www.tinyurl.com/2013lobbyreportform.

Announcements

2012 U.S. poverty data will be release on September 17 and 19 by the U.S. Census. To help us prepare, our friends at the [Coalition on Human Needs](#) will be holding a webinar next **Tuesday, September 10 at 2:00 – 3:30 pm ET** to help you find and use the data in the coming weeks. Presenters for the webinar will be Jared Bernstein (CBPP), Deborah Weinstein (CHN), and Ellen Teller (FRAC). Register at <https://chn.peachnewmedia.com/store/seminar/seminar.php?seminar=21815>.

RESULTS Introductory Call: Wednesday, September 11, 9:00 pm ET. Register for this or another Intro Call at www.tinyurl.com/RESULTSMeetandGreet/.

RESULTS U.S. Poverty Free Agents Call: Tuesday, September 17, 9:00 pm ET. (218) 486-1611, passcode RESULTS (7378587, plus #).

Nominate someone to be a **RESULTS/RESULTS Educational Fund (REF) Grassroots Board Member**. Nominations are due by September 24. You can e-mail your nomination to jmclaughlin@results.org or fax to (202) 466-1397.

You can find a full-list of upcoming events, along with call-in numbers on the [RESULTS Events Calendar](#).

Thank you for being on today's call!

**Next RESULTS U.S. Poverty National Conference Call
Saturday, October 12, at 12:30 pm ET**

We bid a fond farewell to New England Organizer Jenny Martin and wish her the best on her new adventure in North Carolina!

