RESULTS
the power to end poverty

RESULTS July 2015 U.S. Poverty National Meeting

Making a Difference with Face-to-Face Lobby Meetings

Login online at: http://fuze.me/28130766 or by phone at: (201) 479-4595, Meeting ID: 28130766
Welcome from Meredith Dodson, RESULTS Director of U.S. Poverty Campaigns

Meredith (far left), with other “RESULTS moms” in Washington, DC
Remarks from Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (D-CA-46)

- Represents California’s 46th District (Los Angeles area).
- First elected in 1996.
- Member of Congressional Hispanic Caucus and founder and Co-Chair of Women in the Military Caucus.
- Travels back to her district nearly every weekend to meet with Constituents and leaders in the community.
- She is a strong advocate for creating jobs, reducing crime, supporting education, and increasing access to quality health care.
- Was a student in Head Start.
- Got her degree from Chapman University and her MBA from American University.

We apologize that Congresswoman Sanchez could not appear in person. Late this week, her office informed us that she had an unexpected scheduling conflict arise. We appreciate her still taking time to record this message for us.
Economic Mobility Campaign Update

• The **Earned Income Tax Credit** (EITC) and **Child Tax Credit** (CTC) are key supports for low-income working families. If improvements to the EITC and CTC expire, millions of people will be pushed into deeper financial insecurity.

• The Senate Finance Committee is scheduled to meet on Advocacy Day, July 21 but it may be postponed.

• It is especially important for Senate Finance Democrats to speak out in support of EITC/CTC

• Republicans are pushing to make some business tax breaks permanent

• Our message is about parity – if you extend the business tax credits, give EITC/CTC improvements the same extensions

• Messaging tips: EITC/CTC promote work; credits create a big bang for the buck and improve self-sufficiency; when making tax changes, treat businesses and workers the same
July Action – Set Up Face-to-Face Meetings With Your Members of Congress in July and August

Face-to-face meetings are the most influential way to influence elected officials!

Help amplify your voice on this issue in upcoming lobby meetings at the RESULTS International Conference and during August recess (House: 8/3 – 9/7; Senate: 8/10 – 9/7).
July Action – Set Up Face-to-Face Meetings With Your Members of Congress in July and August
(http://www.results.org/take_action/july_2015_u.s._poverty_action/)

1. Coordinate with your group to assign a specific person to request a meeting with each member of Congress (and candidates).

2. Find contact information for the district office of your member of Congress through the RESULTS website (under “Staff” tab). You can also call the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and ask for your representative’s/senator’s office.

3. Call and ask for the scheduler (be ready to leave a short voicemail).

4. Use the conversation template from the July Action Sheet for the conversation with the scheduler (see on next slide).
Hi, my name is ____________________, and I am a constituent of Rep./Sen. _________________ from ________________. I am also a volunteer with RESULTS, a grassroots group working to end poverty. I know that Rep./Sen. _________________ values input from constituents on the issues that matter to us. With that in mind, our local RESULTS group would like to schedule a meeting with him/her while we are in Washington for the RESULTS International Conference / while he/she is home for the August recess. There will be at least ____ of us at the meeting, and we would like to discuss how we can create economic mobility through protecting and strengthening tax credits for low-income working families and ways we can work together to support innovative approaches to helping families move out of poverty. May I set that up today? What times would he/she be available to meet?
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5. You may be asked for a written request. **Use the conversation template in the July Action or our online template** to create a request letter/e-mail.

6. If the member of Congress has no time to meet this summer, **ask to schedule a meeting the next time he/she is back home.** Also ask if he/she is holding any town hall meetings during the August recess.

7. **Be sure to note the name of the scheduler and thank that person for their assistance.** If you don’t get a firm answer when you call, mention when you’ll follow up.

Once you confirm a meeting, please contact RESULTS Director of US Poverty Campaigns Meredith Dodson (dodson@results.org) for coaching, materials, and tailored requests for your meeting. For additional tips on how to schedule your face-to-face meeting, check out our **Activist Milestone: Meet Face-to-Face with Your Member of Congress** and our accompanying **PowerPoint.**
July Advocacy Training – Meeting with a member of Congress

STARRING

Dr. Joanne Carter as “The Skeptical Member”

Susan Fleurant as “The Passionate Advocate”

Meredith Dodson as “The Determined Volunteer”
Meredith Dodson (far left), Director of U.S. Poverty Campaigns (with other “RESULTS moms” in Washington, DC)

Regina Hendickson of RESULTS Salina, KS shares about generating letters about the EITC and CTC to bring to DC

Kristy Martino, RESULTS ME volunteer and staff person shares about her “birddogging” efforts talking to presidential candidates about poverty in America, including Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL)

Isabelle Soifer of RESULTS Houston (and new REAL Change Fellow) shares about a new community vitality report she helped create that relates to U.S. poverty
1. **Schedule a lobby prep call with Meredith** if you haven’t done one already! Please contact Jos Linn (jlinn@results.org) immediately to get one scheduled.

2. **Schedule your lobby meetings.** Use our [sample request](#) to contact congressional offices now (don’t wait!). Great job for those of you not coming to DC to help for those are. Log all your meetings into the [Conference Lobby Meeting Form](#).

3. **Gather your constituent letters.** If you have them today, give them to your DC travelers today so they can be delivered to your members of Congress in DC. If you have more out there, figure out how to gather them before you leave today.

4. **Invite your members of Congress to our Lobby Day reception.** We have an [invitation letter online](#) you can use. This is also a great project for those of you NOT coming to DC. Before you leave today, assign who will make those invitations.
The RESULTS International Conference

5. **Read the Background Packet.** *Everyone* should read the [2015 U.S. Poverty Background Packet](#), which has a lot of good information and up-to-date statistics on our current U.S. Poverty Campaigns. *If you want a copy in DC, please bring your own hard or digital copy.*

6. **Dress Appropriately.** Remember, the conference is in July… in DC. That means heat and humidity. You’ll be inside for most of it but you’ll likely go out at some point, so plan to dress comfortably. For Advocacy Day, please bring clothing to dress professionally (as if you were going to a job interview).

7. **Visit the RESULTS International Conference Resources page,** and read the [Conference Checklist](#). The checklist has everything you need to get ready for the conference.

8. **Share Advocacy Day with your Local Action Networks.** For those staying home, e-mail, Facebook, and Tweet about Advocacy Day with your networks. Send an e-mail to your local Action Network talking about your fellow volunteers being in DC and urging them to take action. We’ll give you examples in the July 21 Weekly Update.
The RESULTS International Conference

9. **Prepare to have fun.** Anyone who has been to RESULTS Conference can tell you it is a fabulous experience. Expect to have a great time when you get to DC – we can’t wait to see you!
Announcements

RESULTS Free Agents, July 14 at 1:00 pm and 8:00 pm ET. If you live in an area with no active RESULTS U.S. Poverty group, please join us. Login at http://fuze.me/27491886 or by phone at (201) 479-4595, Meeting ID: 27491886. Contact Jos Linn (jlinn@results.org) for details.

RESULTS Introductory Call, July 31 at 1:00 pm ET. If you are new to RESULTS, learn more about our work by joining our next RESULTS Intro Call. Register for this or another call on the RESULTS website.

Fill out our Lobby Meeting Report Form for any lobby meetings you’ve done recently. www.tinyurl.com/RESLRF.

You can find these and other events in the Events Calendar on the RESULTS website.
Thank you for being at today’s meeting!

Next Meeting is Saturday, August 8 at 12:30pm ET

Thank you for everyone who has helped to make this year’s conference a success, including those coming and those who supported them to come.