# RESULTS/RESULTS Educational Fund Nominees for Grassroots Board Member

## 3 ways to vote

- 1) Vote in person at the International Conference Registration Desk.
- 2) Vote by contacting Jack McLaughlin <u>imclaughlin@results.org</u> or 202-783-4800 x152.
- 3) Vote online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/RESULTS2014

# Heide R. Craig

### **Biography**

I was recruited, coached and enrolled by Cameron Duncan and started a RESULTS group in Greenville, SC in 1986. I helped start some and supported all groups in North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia and Florida as Regional Coordinator from 1990-1999. I was instrumental in sourcing RESULTS in Germany in 1989. I put on a World Summit for Children Candlelight Vigil in Sept. 1990 with two partners in Greenville/Spartanburg, SC with 4,000 participants. I went to El Salvador in 1993 with 20 other Results partners to experience the first Micro Credit program finally put to work by USAID.

I have raised an approximate total of \$ 160,000, which includes one contribution of \$130,000. I helped initiate the first printed RESULTS Annual Report, with free design and printing and the two subsequent issues. I went on a hiatus from 1999-2006 because of family health issues but continued my monthly contributions and fundraising. I joined Eric Tayler in 2006 to start a new group in Greenville/Spartanburg, SC. I have been a Group Leader and Regional Coordinator for the Southeast since 2009. I am one of two Grassroots volunteers on the Strategic Design Team. Grassroots Board member October 2011 – 2014

### Statement of Intent

My longtime participation in RESULTS has impacted my life and shaped my leadership. It has given me many insights both into our strength and our shortcomings and what sets us apart from other organizations. It takes a committed volunteer base, sufficient and competent staff and a strong Board to fulfill our vision of a world where all people have a chance to succeed in their lives.

Having been one of the four Grassroots Board members on the Executive Committee of the Board for the last three years has given me the opportunity with others to shape, develop and advance the direction of our advocacy and the effectiveness of our Board. I am on three committees: Finance, Grassroots and Marketing. We have worked on a balanced budget, more open communication between Grassroots and the Board and having RESULTS better known. I would appreciate the opportunity to stay on for the next three years to continue this work and with everyone keep moving us to the next level.

# Liz Clerkin

## **Biography**



In 1996, my next door neighbor in Bloomington, Indiana, Steve Arnold, asked me to come to an Education and Action meeting. Driving to the meeting, I remember thinking that this would be a waste of time; I was overcome by my inability to make a difference in the world. I had tried lots of things- volunteering in politics, joining activist groups, but nothing really made me feel as though I was making any headway. Somewhat reluctantly, I agreed to join RESULTS for three months and give it a try. Within a few months, I'd met (for the first time) with my Congressperson and we actually got him to agree to write a letter to the chair of the Foreign Operations subcommittee. I helped organize a

community forum on microcredit. And I learned what it was like to be working with some of the most committed wonderful people on this planet. I was empowered and excited.

Since joining RESULTS, I have been lucky enough to serve as group leader for the Bloomington, Indiana group and since relocating to Oberlin, Ohio, I've served as the group leader for the Cleveland, Ohio group for many years. (It is not true that I relocated to Oberlin because Allison Gallaher recruited me to join the Cleveland Ohio group, really I came here for my job.) I've helped organize fundraisers, plan regional conferences, and I've attended many of the regional and International Conferences since 1997. I've been involved in media work and, as with all of us, lobbied our members of Congress. I have secured RESULTS grants to organize activities around World AIDS Day and with RESULTS' support, our Cleveland group has hosted visitors from Zambia and Kenya during their media tours.

#### Statement of Intent

I am honored to be nominated for the grassroots board member spot. Very early in RESULTS, I heard this quotation and it's meant everything to me and the way I work in RESULTS: "Amidst the glut of insignificance that engulfs us all, the temptation is understandable to stop thinking. The trouble is unthinking persons cannot choose but must let others choose for them. But to fail to make one's own choices is to betray the freedom which is our society's greatest gift to us all." RESULTS helped me rise out of that glut of insignificance. I see this opportunity to give back to the organization in another way. In my professional life, I have worked as a college registrar for 34 years in large public universities and small private colleges. You may wonder how that will be an asset as a grassroots board member. I have a lot of management experience, I play well with others, and I have a good sense of humor. I can handle helicopter parents, salvage student's academic careers, win over recalcitrant faculty, and support my fellow staff members in achieving their goals. I hope to bring my talents to support the board and the staff in long range planning, to make

our organization even more brilliant than it is now. And speaking of brilliance, my role as a board member would be to represent you. You have the passion and voice; I want to hear your ideas. Whether you are a domestic or global volunteer, you know that RESULTS needs to continue to grow, that it needs resources to continue to support us, and it needs to continue its work on forming lasting relationships with organizations. We want to make poverty history; I'd love the opportunity to contribute to RESULTS to make that happen. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

# **Biography**



## Vanessa Garcia

My first involvement with RESULTS occurred after I attended Marianne Williamson's "Sister Giant" conference in Los Angeles. Within a few weeks I joined the RESULTS orientation call and decided to move forward. Each Monday night, I manned the RESULTS table in Los Angeles during Marianne Williamson's weekly talk and coordinated a RESULTS fundraiser there. I decided to then start the Orange County RESULTS-Domestic group. The experience of forming that group prepared me to start the Orange County- Spanish-speaking RESULTS group where I am the principal Spanish-language translator. I then participated in the formation of the

West Los Angeles chapter. I helped organize the RESULTS local conference in South Orange County where I led the instruction in Social Media. Finally, I advocated for the integration of the Orange County RESULTS-Domestic and Global groups to create a unified and stronger local presence.

Nationally, I attended the RESULTS conference in Washington, D.C. in 2013 where I attended both California Senate meetings and five Congressional meetings. Immediately following the conference I appeared on the "We Get Results" radio show with Mary Robertson and discussed my experiences in the International Conference. I had a recent opportunity to appear on the Sean Astin radio show, "Vox Populi" to discuss my involvement with RESULTS and encourage the audience to attend the 2014 conference. Finally, I will be a volunteer at this year's International Conference.

#### Statement of Intent

As a young candidate for this position, I have been told I have an "old head on young shoulders" -responsible, dedicated, politically astute, an innate leadership with the ability to organize a group and guide them to the accomplishment of goals, tenacious and visionary. I am driven by my personal childhood experiences with poverty and want to help everyone who is affected by poverty. My passion <u>compels</u> me to talk about RESULTS to everyone who

will listen. As a team player, I understand the value of working with diverse viewpoints without compromising integrity. I am open-minded and receptive to new possibilities. My philosophy is that there is a solution to every problem. I am friendly, engaging, open-hearted and love to work with others towards a cause.

The very quality that some may view as a weakness is the very strength I intend to bring to the Board. My youthful energy, exuberance and enthusiasm showcases the new vitality and fresh ideas needed to attract younger volunteers and activists. As an experienced political organizer, I have successfully demonstrated the ability to apply the "grassroots" model by the establishment of the "Orange County Marianne for Congress" volunteer group which became the model for other groups in the 33<sup>rd</sup> California district, the Orange County RESULTS-Domestic group, and the first ever Spanish-speaking RESULTS group.

Regardless of the outcome of this candidacy, I intend to continue to work tirelessly to make RESULTS a household word and involve the younger voters who, along with me, will inherit this country and this planet in the very near future.

# Cynthia Changyit Levin

## **Biography**



I never intended to join RESULTS at the 2008
International Conference. Yet after lobbying face-to-face with my Congresswoman, I was hooked on advocacy for good. Since then, I've been a group leader of the Chicago-Evanston global group, helped to start the Evanston domestic group, served on the RESULTS/RESULTS Educational Fund Board, and started a global group in St. Louis of which I am a current co-leader. I also served on the RESULTS Educational Fund staff as a grassroots fundraising coach for the past three years.

I involve myself with all aspects of RESULTS advocacy. My letters-to-the-editor have appeared in Chicago area newspapers as well as the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Washington Post, the New York Times and the international Financial Times. I involve my young children

in lobby meetings, fundraising, letter-writing, and classroom advocacy projects. I share what I have learned about advocacy by training other activists, writing my <a href="Anti-Poverty Mom">Anti-Poverty Mom</a> blog, and contributing blog content for World Moms Blog, Moms Rising, and the ONE Campaign. My coalition work includes helping build RESULTS' local relationships with Shot@Life, ONE, and Bread for the World.

#### Statement of Intent

In 2009, I was elected to the board when we were dreaming for the next 30 years of RESULTS. Since then, my experiences on staff and as a volunteer leader have made me an even more qualified candidate to help achieve our strategic plan. I wish to return to serve with new skills, relationships, and perspectives.

Over three years on REF's fundraising staff broadened my exposure to more aspects of RESULTS work, provided insights into finances & operations, and allowed me to coach volunteers across the U.S. As a volunteer, my grassroots experience evolved as I looked for new ways to expand RESULTS. I launched two new RESULTS groups, built coalition relationships, and became a social media mom-blogger to promote our mission to new audiences. A trip to Uganda as a Shot@Life champion gave me a closer understanding of global poverty. Fostering a relationship between RESULTS and actor Sean Astin has expanded how I think about the power of individual relationships to help reach each other's goals.

I wish to bring a can-do attitude of encouraging new, creative thinking as we take RESULTS to places we've never been before. I offer my unique experiences to help shape the direction of the organization I love.

## Michael Rigby

## **Biography**



were largely successful in that endeavor.

In 1984 I joined Lenny Chorazy in the Northern Virginia RESULTS group, he was group leader, and I was a partner in that group. In addition, my wife, Lynn, and I, managed the RESULTS monthly sponsor program. I have been a group leader, chair of the management team, and Legislative Director. The first RESULTS group in the world that was not started by Sam Daley-Harris, was started by me, in Phoenix, AZ, 1985. My major project was the first attempt to legislate a microfinance program at US AID. We

Dr. Yunus, Ernie Leovinsohn and me were the authors of the legislation. Sam and I colluded on the strategy, I handled all of the negotiations and about thirty RESULTS groups provided the power. Alex Counts, who is now President of Grameen Foundation, interned in the RESULTS office at this time, and did some very useful work. This period is also covered in *Reclaiming our Democracy*.

I live simply. I have very few possessions – I have not driven a car since March 2000, and travel everywhere by bicycle and public transport. I practice daily yoga and meditation. I work on helping various organizations keep their websites up to date, some of this I get paid for, most of it I do for free. I engage in guerrilla gardening (with the support of my local neighborhood association) and I help organize park cleanup events. I volunteer at a local bicycle collective, where old and broken bicycles are recycled into viable street machines, and I am active in the recently formed Baltimore RESULTS group.

#### Statement of Intent

After I left the RESULTS staff in 1991, I built a business in London building custom databases for corporate clients, until 1997. Then I gave away everything I owned, and spent several years living as a very poor person. I was an undocumented worker for several years (in Australia). I have been held in immigration detention, and deported. I spent almost a year living in a big homeless shelter in downtown Washington, DC. I have lived in various informal (squats) situations in London and elsewhere (I spent three months living in a tent in downtown Baltimore during the Occupy protest).

In recent years I helped start a local currency in Baltimore and I have done quite a lot of work on medical marijuana, and cannabis legalization in Maryland. In serving on the RESULTS board I would be able to utilize all of my various experiences. I cannot think of anywhere else where so much of my past would be relevant.

May all beings be happy.