

# RESULTS Advocate

BUILDING CHAMPIONS TO END POVERTY

## Big Wins in Education and Health Care

An estimated one million children in Africa and South Asia will have the chance to go to school thanks to a new \$750 million commitment from the World Bank — and thanks to RESULTS Educational Fund (REF). And nearly two million people will receive HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria treatment and prevention through the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria thanks to the U.S. government — and thanks to, you guessed it, RESULTS and REF. This fall has seen big wins in leveraging greater resources for education and health care for the world's poorest, demonstrating the power of combining research, media, and advocacy.

### A Report Raises Eyebrows and Millions of Needed Dollars

The World Bank's decision to increase its education funding for poor countries was catalyzed in large part by a report released by REF, which found that the Bank's funding for education in sub-Saharan Africa has been decreasing, despite the fact that one out of every three elementary-aged children in sub-Saharan Africa is not in school and the region faces an annual financing gap of \$10 billion for education.

"When I came on board as REF's Education for All campaign manager in 2008," said Sarah Beardmore, "I was shocked to learn that the World Bank had provided only \$44 million for primary education in all of sub-Saharan Africa out of the roughly \$10 billion available for development projects that year. The World Bank is one of the most important donors to basic education. We decided to research what was going on."

The research culminated in a report released in June 2010 entitled

"World Bank Education Financing: Less or More for the Poor in IDA 16?" The report described how education lending from the International Development Association (IDA) — the Bank's lending window for poor countries — had gone up for



These first-time attendees to the RESULTS/REF International Conference converged on Capitol Hill to advocate for education, health care, and economic opportunity for all. [Read about it, and RESULTS' 30 years of success, on page 4.](#)

most other regions but had decreased in sub-Saharan Africa from an average of 44 percent in 2002 to 28 percent in 2010. In addition, out of 79 countries that received World Bank education money in the last decade, two middle income countries (India and Pakistan) had received almost half. Meanwhile, over 30 countries with strong education plans, many of them in Africa, were no longer receiving funding for basic education from the World Bank.

The report was released during the RESULTS/REF International Conference in June. U.S. activists took it to meetings with members of Congress, and attendees from RESULTS' affiliate organizations in Canada, Australia, and the UK met with their World Bank executive directors. This advocacy was followed by three months of intense follow-up and outreach to World Bank executive directors and other officials responsible for the IDA, the head of the World Bank's education sector, the head of the Education for All Fast Track Initiative, and education specialists in the UK's Department for International Development.

"By and large," said Beardmore, "the feedback was that the report findings were cause for concern and that it had created the

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*Empowering ordinary people to become extraordinary voices for the end of poverty.*

impetus for broader discussions within the Bank about its role in basic education. Still, we didn't know whether the report would result in real policy change, i.e., more basic education money that is better allocated."

In August, Beardmore got word that the World Bank was preparing a "big announcement," which it would make during the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Summit in New York City in September. At an event co-organized by the Global Campaign for Education (REF houses the U.S. chapter) and the Education for All Fast Track Initiative, the senior managing director of the World Bank, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, took the podium. The big announcement: the World Bank's International Development Association will increase grants and zero-interest loans for basic education by \$750 million over the next five years. This funding represents about a 40 percent increase in its basic education lending for the poorest countries.

"The result is that an additional one million children will be afforded the opportunity to go to school over the next five years. And that is good progress," said Beardmore. "We know, however, that much more is needed. We will be pressing the Bank to disperse that money over three years, not five, and then increase it each year until Education for All is reality."

### Upping the Ante on Global Health

In June, RESULTS set out a bold plan to push the Obama administration to make a three-year commitment of \$6 billion to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. On Oct. 5, the U.S. announced an unprecedented three-year pledge, demonstrating clearly that we had been heard, but also, that our work is not over.

The Global Fund has dramatically transformed efforts to fight AIDS, TB, and malaria. Since its establishment in 2002, Global Fund-financed programs have tested and treated almost 3 million people for HIV/AIDS and 7 million people for TB, while 122 million bed nets have been distributed to prevent malaria. These efforts have saved 5.7 million lives! With adequate funding, the Global Fund could support the virtual elimination of pediatric AIDS, the elimination of malaria as a public health threat in many countries, and ensure universal access to TB treatment.

But in recent years, the U.S. and other donor countries have flat-lined funding, putting millions of people's lives at stake. In fact, the president's FY2011 budget actually called for a \$50 million cut.

In a bold move, RESULTS and our congressional allies decided to push for a three-year, \$6 billion pledge to meet the U.S. fair share of funding and give the Global Fund the financial security it needs.

To advance this agenda, RESULTS rallied the support of members of Congress, other organizations, and the media to get the administration's attention:

- Our staff worked with Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA) to support a letter to the president urging a three-year pledge for 2012-2014 of \$6 billion. Thanks in large part to RESULTS' grassroots, the letter was signed by 101 members of Congress. Our volunteers also successfully urged members of Congress to weigh in separately with the White House.
- Our media drive included a multi-city tour by four African health activists, as well as dogged efforts by our U.S. activists. These combined efforts resulted in nearly 80 media clips including editorials, op-eds, and letters to the editor in papers across the country, plus radio and TV spots.
- The Global AIDS Alliance, ONE, Health GAP, and Friends of the Global Fight joined with us in pushing the administration during meetings and in calls, emails, and tweets to the White House and the State Department.

While the administration's first-ever three-year pledge represents real success, the amount announced — \$4 billion — fell short of the need. Nevertheless, it represents a 38 percent increase over the preceding three-year period, which is substantial in light of overall budget challenges. It is also the largest increase by far of any donor nation this year.

"There is no question that our advocacy moved the needle considerably," said RESULTS Legislative Director John Fawcett. "Four months ago few took seriously the notion that the U.S. would make a multi-year pledge, and the president's budget request indicated he was content with a flat funding trajectory."



Michael Gwaba (left) and Joyce Kamwana (right photo, center) — TB-HIV survivors and ambassadors for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria — collaborated with RESULTS chapters across the U.S. to speak to newspapers, radio and TV stations, and community groups.

The administration's pledge is just a start and is still subject to Congressional appropriations. We'll be working with our congressional allies to ensure that the \$4 billion is not just met, but exceeded. RESULTS' affiliate organizations in other countries are also pushing their governments to increase their pledges.

*RESULTS is also supporting an innovative way to finance the Global Fund and other anti-poverty efforts — a currency transaction levy. Read about it on page 7 and take action with us at [www.results.org](http://www.results.org).*

## Celebrating a Microfinance Champion

Dr. Scott Leckman wasted no time when his home state of Utah elected a new senator back in 1992. He made an appointment to meet Senator Bob Bennett just one week later.

“Senator Bennett agreed to meet with me, one on one, in his campaign headquarters,” remembered Dr. Leckman, a long-time RESULTS activist who is now RESULTS/REF board chair. “I was very hopeful that getting to him early in his career would be helpful. I talked to him about our issues, and he immediately liked the idea of microcredit.”

Dr. Leckman knew that the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee (which oversees the foreign aid budget) was the place to be if you’re a senator wanting to advance U.S. financial support and smart policies for microfinance. He encouraged Sen. Bennett to get a spot. When Sen. Bennett joined the subcommittee five years later, he began having a substantial influence.

Since that first meeting, Dr. Leckman and his fellow RESULTS activists in Utah have met annually with Sen. Bennett and his staff in Salt Lake City and in Washington, D.C. “He was always a gentleman,” said Dr. Leckman. At each meeting, the group urged the senator to take specific actions to increase funding and improve implementation of programs for microfinance, and consistently he did.

“He has been *the* champion for microfinance on the Foreign Operations Subcommittee,” said Dr. Leckman. “He was the lead on several letters to the president of the World Bank and met personally with him to advance microfinance. During hearings, Sen. Bennett asked the Treasury Secretary and the Secretary of State hard questions about why we weren’t doing more. After the tsunami in 2005, we put forward the idea of setting aside \$20 million for microfinance in Indonesia, and he liked the idea and made it happen. And every year he’s pressed for more of our foreign aid money to go for microfinance programs for the world’s poorest people. He’s been a wonderful ally.”

When Sen. Bennett joined the Foreign Operations Subcommittee, the U.S. allocation for microfinance programs was \$111 million. That figure has more than doubled since then, reaching \$265 million this year.

Sen. Bennett is now finishing up his last term in office. Recently he acknowledged the importance of both his relationship with Dr. Leckman and his own role in expanding microfinance. During their last meeting together on Capitol Hill in June, Sen. Bennett told Dr. Leckman, “I’m grateful to you for introducing me to microfinance. It’s not something I was talking about.”



Utah RESULTS activists Dr. Scott Leckman, Emily Bennett, and Vanessa Johnson met one last time with Senator Bennett (second from right) in June. “I’m grateful to you for introducing me to microfinance,” Sen. Bennett told them. Dr. Leckman called Sen. Bennett a “champion for microfinance.”

Dr. Leckman and RESULTS staff and activists were able to show their gratitude to the senator when he joined us that evening for the RESULTS/REF International Conference reception. “There are millions and millions of poor women and their families who have benefitted because of your actions,” Dr. Leckman said in his introduction, “I know and everybody in this room knows how instrumental you have been in making their lives better.”

After an enthusiastic round of applause, Sen. Bennett explained his commitment to microfinance. “I’ve been to Morocco and places in Egypt and met with people who have microloans. I’ve seen firsthand how fabulously it works. I’m a conservative Republican, which means I’m a capitalist, and to turn these women into capitalists is a great project. It gives them an independence and a form of self-respect that nothing else can do.”

He closed this way: “People say to me, now that you’re leaving the Senate, list your accomplishments. Looking back on the level of microfinance spending when I got on the Foreign Operations Subcommittee and seeing what level it is now, and knowing how many times I made phone calls and wrote letters and so on, I think my legacy in helping to increase the spending for microfinance is as important a legacy as anything else I have done.”

# Celebrating 30 Years of Results and Getting

**Kul** Chandra Gautam leaned forward eagerly as he spoke. “Many of you may not be fully aware of what a huge impact your work and activism can make on the well-being of children, women, and other vulnerable groups around the world. But take it from me — as someone who has witnessed first-hand the life-saving and life-enriching impact of RESULTS’ advocacy in the far corners of the world — you are among the great unsung heroes of the child survival and development revolution.”

The setting was the 2010 RESULTS/RESULTS Educational Fund International Conference, held in June in Washington, D.C. Gathered were hundreds of dedicated anti-poverty activists working to transform the world’s response to poverty. They travelled from all over the country and six continents to celebrate 30 years of RESULTS and to take action.

2010 marks three decades since the founding of RESULTS and the beginning of the child survival and development revolution. Gautum, who was deputy executive director of UNICEF at the time (and later assistant secretary general of the United Nations), described the fortunate convergence of efforts. In 1980, the new executive director of UNICEF, James P. Grant, set forth a series of ambitious goals that, said Gautum, “put the survival and development of children at the heart of the world’s humanitarian and development agenda.” His goals were considered idealistic, so to achieve them he needed significant support.

RESULTS, Gautum said, “had the acumen to ensure that the American public and politicians heard about this visionary initiative. With the help of hundreds of RESULTS volunteers and activists like yourselves, draft editorials and op-ed pieces were presented to editors of newspapers in small towns and cities all across America. Suddenly hundreds of such articles appeared in



Kul Chandra Gautum, RESULTS/REF Executive Director Joanne Carter, and Ethiopian Minister of Health Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus spoke at the International Conference.

local newspapers, and the subject of child survival became a topic of discussion in local town hall meetings. Senators and congressmen could not ignore this groundswell of grassroots support. Thanks to RESULTS’ community-level work, UNICEF’s advocacy became so much easier to sell. Year after year, there was consistent bipartisan support for UNICEF and its child survival mission.”

Over the past 30 years, childhood deaths from preventable diseases and malnutrition have been cut almost in half, from 40,000 per day to 22,000. “Your advocacy,” said Gautum, “touches and transforms the lives of millions of people. Believe me, you are the anonymous recipients of the blessings and gratitude of millions of people whom you have helped to uplift from poverty, if not from death itself.”

## Harnessing Democracy to End Poverty

Looking at the arc of RESULTS/REF’s work, it’s clear we’ve had a transformative impact in many areas. When RESULTS started to bring attention to the life-changing power of microfinance, only about one million people had access to these financial services. Microfinance now impacts well over half a billion people.

RESULTS helped expand and protect Head Start’s early childhood development programs to serve millions of American kids, and we created the pressure necessary to abolish primary school fees in low-income countries. We’ve brought hundreds of millions of dollars to TB programs, and we helped ensure that low-income Americans did not get left behind in health care reform, with Medicaid being extended to 16 million more people.

“We’re part of a great historical tradition of ordinary citizens organizing and demanding change,” said RESULTS/REF Executive Director Joanne Carter.

While the conference drew many attendees who remembered the earliest days of RESULTS, when founder Sam Daley-Harris crisscrossed the country by Greyhound bus to start new RESULTS chapters, almost one-third of attendees were there for the first time. Many of them were inspired to come after attending RESULTS/REF Board Member Marianne Williamson’s Sister Giant Conference, and they were fired up.



**“We are here as a group advocating for people who don’t have the least of a chance,”** Michigan activist Betty Appleby told Rep. John Conyers. The senior member of the Congressional Black Caucus agreed to deliver a letter to the president about the need for a Global Fund for Education.

# Inspired for the Future

"I went to the Sister Giant conference because I felt I had become complacent, but I wanted to be part of the solution to ending world poverty and world hunger," said Nancy Gardiner of Trumbull, Connecticut. "Marianne said to us, 'It is not enough to just take care of your own children. They are all our children.' I knew she was right, and I knew I had to be part of the solution."

Within months, Gardiner had helped start a RESULTS chapter in Connecticut. She then signed herself and her 16-year-old daughter up for the International Conference. "I had made the decision to be all in," she said. "All in meant using the resources on the RESULTS website, lots of calls and e-mails to RESULTS staff for help and tips on follow up, listening to the RESULTS podcast about researching our legislators, reading the legislative packet."

Gardiner's meetings with her members of Congress were extremely successful, she said. "I learned that deciding to be all in can inspire you to take the bold actions necessary to make a difference in solving the 'wicked problems' of the world."

## Continuing a 30-Year Record of Success

At RESULTS, we like to measure our success in lives saved, kids educated, and families moving out of poverty. To get there involves multiple steps, hundreds of actions taken, and time, as our history shows. En masse meetings on Capitol Hill during the conference are a key moment each year to take new strides towards these goals.

This year we had much to celebrate. Within six weeks after the conference:

- 101 representatives signed a letter calling on President Obama to make a three-year, \$6 billion pledge to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.
- One-third of the Senate joined a letter to World Bank President Robert Zoellick urging the Bank to act on a set of initiatives to expand microfinance for the very poor in Africa.

**"I see these programs working for people who are living in extreme poverty,"** Nancy Palonia shared during a meeting in Senator Al Franken's office. "On the reservation, a lot of children wouldn't have access to nutritious food, which is important for cognitive development. My daughter has benefited from WIC and her children are in Head Start preschool while she gets training."



**"You challenged us in health care reform to reach out to people without health insurance ... and we did,"** Senator Dick Durbin (center, with RESULTS Illinois volunteers) told activists during the Lobby Day Kickoff on Capitol Hill. "We need to tell the story about what this means, not just in terms of health care, but in terms of social justice and who we are as a nation and what our priorities are as a nation."

- 40 cosponsors were added to the bipartisan Education for All Act of 2010.
- 101 cosponsors were added to the House bill to award Muhammad Yunus the Congressional Gold Medal.
- Senate appropriators increased funding for Head Start in FY2011 by \$990.3 million and for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) by \$1 billion, while the House Appropriations Subcommittee included an \$866 million increase for Head Start and a \$700 million increase for CCDBG.
- Several members of Congress communicated their support for expansions of the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit directly to tax committee leaders.

These achievements are truly an indication of the breadth and depth of relationships our activists create with their elected officials. By the beginning of October, they had led to tangible results — legislation had been passed to award Prof. Yunus the Congressional Gold Medal and the president made a first-ever three-year commitment to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

We're confident that these steps forward will lead to even more dramatic results in our next decade of empowering ordinary people to create extraordinary change.



**"What amazed me was that I had no idea that anyone could meet with their representative or senator!"** shared Suzanne Whang, an LA-based actor and comedian and new RESULTS activist. "Doing it demystified a lot for me. I'm just thrilled by how things went. **It feels so much more doable and manageable for me to be effective than I ever thought.**"



## Making the Leap to Sustain RESULTS

**H**eide Craig tried to throw the photo away years ago, but couldn't. Torn from a magazine, it shows a girl left on a sprawling garbage heap. That image has helped keep Craig's feet to the fire as a RESULTS volunteer activist for years. It has even helped her overcome her terror of asking for money.

"As a child in post-WWII Germany, asking for money was the hardest thing to do, even for an ice cream," she said. "I couldn't ask, and I didn't get the ice cream. For me, asking for money is almost like jumping over my shadow."

But jumping is exactly what she's doing through her volunteer leadership in RESULTS/RESULTS Educational Fund's fall fundraising campaign. Craig is approaching friends and family members to support RESULTS and REF because, she said, "We cannot discard the people out there. I know how effective RESULTS is. Our results are phenomenal, and our impact is exceptional. And when you're in RESULTS, you jump over hurdles."

During her 20 years at the New Mexico Department of Health, Lydia Pendley saw "on a daily basis the tremendous needs in New Mexico in terms of hunger and poverty." Pendley was recently elected to the RESULTS/REF board of directors and is co-group leader of RESULTS' Santa Fe chapter, which held not one, but *three* fundraisers this year. Like many other groups, Pendley and her team have risen to the challenge of filling a gap in the budget for RESULTS' U.S.-focused (domestic) work.

"Our group really wants this work to continue," Pendley said. "RESULTS has such an incredible track record in terms of what it has done and a very powerful way of working. Lending our skills and passion to reduce the growing number of people in poverty in the U.S. is enormously important."

Pendley's fundraising will support the people who support her to have an impact. "I sing the praises of RESULTS' staff," she said. "It's very unusual for a nationwide organization to offer the kind of access we have. If there's a question, if we need materials, if we need support, they're there for us. It's worth it to me to fundraise to help RESULTS grow, and it feels good to talk about this wonderful organization!"

As a group, our volunteers annually raise over \$300,000 from their friends, relatives, and colleagues, notes Donna Howard, RESULTS/REF development director. "This unrestricted support is particularly valuable, because it allows us to address our most urgent needs and gives us the flexibility to direct resources where they can have the biggest impact. It also gives us the independent voice we need to call on Congress to act powerfully, effectively, and strategically."

New Jersey volunteer David Burns sees how his actions and donations are having a powerful impact. "When I began over 20 years ago, we were the only ones talking about microfinance," he said. "Now it's been a topic on the TV show *The Simpsons!*"

Burns has set a goal to raise \$2,000 for RESULTS. "I have a significant birthday coming up," he said. "In celebration of that and the successes of RESULTS and what we're looking to accomplish in the future, I'm asking people to join me in making a contribution. I tell them it's an investment in the world we want to see."

*If you're reading this, you're already a friend of RESULTS. Please consider joining our activists who are leaping over their shadows to support our work. Make a donation today using the enclosed envelope. All gifts, no matter the size, are critical to the success of RESULTS and RESULTS Educational Fund.*



**"RESULTS has such an incredible track record in terms of what it has done and a very powerful way of working,"** said Lydia Pendley (third from left), co-leader of the RESULTS Santa Fe chapter and RESULTS/REF board member. Pendley helped put on three fundraisers in the last few months to support RESULTS' work!

With her during a visit to Capitol Hill are RESULTS Director of Domestic Campaigns Meredith Dodson, RESULTS Global Legislative Director John Fawcett, and RESULTS activists Silviana Valdez, Frances Moore, Hugh Boyle, Jill Gardiner, Nancy Gardiner, and Bruce Underhill.

# CAMPAIGN UPDATES

## Ending Child Hunger and Helping America's Low-Income Working Families

One in five children in the U.S. lives in poverty. These kids struggle to learn in school and go to bed hungry. Yet Congress is considering legislation that could make things worse.

Child nutrition funding, which pays for such programs as school lunches and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), is up for its 10-year reauthorization. The Senate has passed a child nutrition bill that only invests \$4.5 billion in new funding, far below what was called for by the president. Worse, to pay for it, the Senate cut over \$2 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP (formerly called food stamps). RESULTS activists have been pressing the House to pass a bill with higher funding levels and restore the SNAP funding.

Simultaneously, we've been raising our voices for working families as Congress decides what to do about expiring tax cuts. As part of the 2009 recovery act, the Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) were expanded to help more working parents. However, the changes will expire at the end of this year, which means 7 million people could lose all or part of their credits.

Join us in urging Congress to protect working families by adequately funding child nutrition programs and making the improvements to the EITC and CTC permanent. *Take action at [www.results.org](http://www.results.org).*

## Opportunity in an Innovative Levy

A plan to close the funding gap for addressing critical health and environmental issues is starting to gain traction in the United States. Rep. Pete Stark (D-CA) recently introduced the Investing in Our Future Act of 2010, which would establish a 0.005 percent tax on all foreign currency exchange transactions by large-scale traders in the U.S.

Foreign currency exchange is the largest market in the world by volume, but it remains untaxed. The proposed currency transaction levy could raise tens of billions of dollars each year. Forty percent would be dedicated for climate change, another 40 percent would go towards global health mechanisms (including the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria), and 20 percent would be dedicated to domestic child care needs.

While the concept has been embraced by the leaders of more 60 countries, and France has promised to bring it to the G8/G20 Summit next year, it needed RESULTS to help give it a platform in the United States. RESULTS has been working with Rep. Stark to develop the legislation, and our grassroots are enlisting the support of their members of Congress.

Because the proposed tax is so small, it would not impact the economy or the currency market. On the other hand, it would help to rectify the fact that poor nations have been deeply impacted by a financial crisis not of their making. *Learn more at [www.results.org](http://www.results.org).*

## Why RESULTS?

Since 1980, RESULTS has been shining a light on poverty wherever it exists and supporting citizens to become powerful voices for the end of poverty. RESULTS, Inc. is an international, grassroots citizens' advocacy organization whose purpose is to create the political will to end hunger and poverty. RESULTS Educational Fund, a 501(c)(3) organization, focuses on creating the public will to end poverty through training and education.

The two nonprofits work together to accomplish these goals through research, education, training, public events, media coverage, and advocacy. Our research analyzes U.S. investments towards eradicating poverty at

home and abroad and seeks out sustainable, effective solutions. Our campaigns focus attention on these solutions and support legislators in making them national priorities.

RESULTS has developed a unique support system that empowers ordinary people to make a difference. Volunteers in over 100 chapters around the country take monthly actions — writing or meeting with members of Congress, generating media, and educating communities. Our volunteers are just like you, people searching for concrete ways to make a difference in their communities and around the world.

*Find a group in your community or start one today! Visit [www.results.org](http://www.results.org).*

## RESULTS and RESULTS EDUCATIONAL FUND

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# A Gold Medal for Muhammad Yunus



Just a few short months ago it seemed that one of RESULTS' long-sought goals — to see Professor Muhammad Yunus awarded the Congressional Gold Medal — might never be realized. *But then our activists got in gear.* On Sept. 23, the House of Representatives passed a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Professor Yunus, finally following the Senate, which had passed its version in 2009. On Oct. 5, the president signed the legislation into law.

Congress commissions gold medals as its highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions. But they are rare honors, as Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA) explained in remarks made on the House floor before the vote was cast: "This is not an easy thing to get done in the House of Representatives, to get 290 members to sign and bring something forward. Dr. Yunus is clearly worth working for."

When our activists convened for our International Conference in June (see page 4), only 170 members had cosponsored the bill, 120 short of the two-thirds majority needed for passage. In meetings, activists urged their representatives to cosponsor the bill, and the number rose to 271 in six weeks. To help cross the finish line, long-time RESULTS activist Lenny Chorazy walked the halls of Congress, visiting 15 offices in two days.

"The vision that excited me is that when Prof. Yunus receives the Gold Medal, he can use the opportunity to leverage the moment to make a real impact in expanding the reach of microfinance," Chorazy said.

Over 160 million people have received microcredit loans to allow them to move out of poverty — a transformational expansion that would not have happened without Yunus' pioneering work. Presenting him with the Gold Medal will further raise awareness of the power of microfinance to afford people dignity and a decent life, build bipartisan support in Congress, and send a signal to USAID and the World Bank that the U.S. is committed to microfinance for the very poor.

And it couldn't have happened without RESULTS, which was the only organization promoting the legislation. Rep. Holt (D-NJ), who drove the bill's passage in the House, acknowledged our role on the House floor: "Grassroots members of the RESULTS advocacy organization from around the country have helped raise awareness about microfinance and the efforts to recognize Muhammad Yunus for his efforts."

**BIG WINS IN EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE**

**INSIDE**

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