

# RESULTS Advocate

BUILDING CHAMPIONS TO END POVERTY

## INVESTING IN A SUSTAINABLE WORLD

### Building a Critical Mass Takes Members

Small groups of dedicated people can achieve extraordinary things, as RESULTS proves. But we will not achieve our goal of ending poverty with a small group, however dedicated.

That's why RESULTS is currently holding a membership campaign, to extend the reach of our network and build the critical mass necessary to create a world without poverty. We're encouraging our activists to share the power of RESULTS with the people they know — through letter-writing, calling campaigns,

house parties, and in person. We're grateful for their willingness to stretch themselves.

Beth Wilson, a volunteer in Olalla, Washington, shows how it's done. "I've been so inspired by RESULTS that I went through my address book and made a list of people I thought I could get to join RESULTS," said Wilson. "Then I added my church directory, my lists of fellow environmental activists, and my food co-op list. It was a joy to share RESULTS with them."



Volunteer Beth Wilson has been digging deep to expand RESULTS' membership.

Wilson asked her network to join her for a local benefit for RESULTS held in March. Thanks to outreach efforts like hers, the fundraiser drew over 200 people and raised over \$40,000 dollars. This was accomplished by a team of volunteers who were willing to dig deep into their personal networks to expand RESULTS. Many had never asked people to donate before.

"I have never been comfortable asking for donations for anything," admitted Judy Arbogast. "However, knowing the importance of what we are doing through RESULTS, I felt it was time to crank up my courage. The first few calls were the most difficult, but once I got started talking about RESULTS, it was easier than I had imagined. People were really excited by what they learned about the goals and actions of RESULTS."

This is the exciting possibility of our Membership Campaign — reaching hundreds of people with our message of a world without poverty. When we ask people to become members of RESULTS, we are offering them an opportunity to create a world where all people have the resources they need. Please consider the people in your life who may be inspired by this message. Give them this newsletter and ask them to become a member of RESULTS, too.

### Join the Membership Campaign!

**The goal:** 700 new members and \$50,000

**The deadline:** July 12 (we'll celebrate at the International Conference)

**How to become a member:** Members can join for as little as \$35 a year. For an even greater impact, become a monthly sponsor for \$10 or more per month. All members receive the *RESULTS Advocate* and can choose what level of involvement they want, from financial donations to taking actions as part of RESULTS' Action Network. Use the enclosed giving envelope or log on to our website at [www.results.org](http://www.results.org) to become a member today.

## 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 groups around the country take monthly actions — writing or meeting with members of Congress, generating media, and educating their 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/REF warmly welcomes our new donors at the Optimist Level (\$1000) and above. Thank you!**

Valerie Barth. Guerrant Foundation Inc. Tulsa Communication Foundation. AECID. Arthur and Mary Kuhlman. San Diego National Bank.

Each day in the developing world, nearly 27,000 children die mostly from malnutrition and preventable diseases. In the U.S., one in six children grow up in poverty. Yet we have the resources and expertise to end hunger in a single generation. Only the public and political will are missing.

**THE STAKES ARE CLEAR  
THE POWER IS YOU!**



Brian Gately

## Archbishop Tutu Salutes RESULTS

A quantum shift is taking place. After decades of ignoring the growing tuberculosis (TB) crisis, the U.S. is taking notice and real action. South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu saluted RESULTS and RESULTS Educational Fund (REF) for our key role in this shift when he spoke to almost 300 RESULTS volunteers on a nationwide conference call in March.

"There is life after TB," the Nobel laureate said. "I am living proof." Tutu had the disease when he was a teenager and was fortunate to get treatment. But these days, he said, "The statistics are devastating. We are now facing a triple challenge with multi-drug resistant and extensively-drug resistant TB, which is making life incredibly difficult for people."

Although some progress is being made in detecting and treating TB, two recent reports from the World Health Organization revealed that the needle is now moving in the wrong direction. The number of deaths from the curable disease rose from 1.6 million in 2005 to 1.7 million in 2006. And drug-resistant TB is spreading faster than ever, with almost a half million cases in 2006.

But if legislation that RESULTS supports is made law, *there will be life after TB for millions more people*. Our activists and staff have been busy ensuring that the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act includes adequate funding to address TB. With our support, the House of Representatives voted to authorize

\$50 billion over five years for these three diseases of poverty. It's a huge step forward in particular for TB. The act authorizes \$4 billion over five years for TB control and includes strategies that would cut TB deaths and disease in half. Our activists are now lobbying their senators to follow suit.



"All of you have been amazing," Archbishop Desmond Tutu told RESULTS activists. (Pictured here with his daughter, Reverend Mpho Tutu, and Global AIDS Alliance Executive Director Dr. Paul Zeitz)

RESULTS chapters in some 100 cities gather around speakerphones each month to hear from experts like Archbishop Tutu and strategize the best ways to flex our collective grassroots muscle. Tutu spoke as a guest of our coalition partner, Global AIDS Alliance (GAA). "All of you have been amazing," he told listeners. "We are on the brink of having very exciting developments. Redouble your efforts. Be in touch with your congresspeople. Persuade them as only you can."

Activists were also able to ask him questions. Asked one: "Did you ever face the question, 'Who am I to be doing this?'" As our volunteers step forward in their communities, this is what many face."

"When God looks at God's world and sees all the awful events," Tutu answered, "God weeps, and I think God says, 'Gee, what ever got into me to create that lot?'" Then God looks down again and sees RESULTS and GAA, sees the incredible human beings you are, taking leadership in your communities for the betterment of human kind, and then a smile breaks over God's face and God says, "That is exactly why I created you. You are fantastic."

*Creating the public and political will to end hunger and poverty worldwide.*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For most of us, yogurt is just a tasty snack. It took a visionary and a successful businessman to see its potential to change a country. Microcredit pioneer Muhammad Yunus and Franck Riboud, CEO of Groupe Danone, have created a new company based on Yunus' concept of "social business." Not only does Grameen Danone produce yogurt that gives malnourished children in Bangladesh a third of their daily nutrition, it's built in a local factory that is providing needed employment (from buying milk from village farmers to employing local women in the sales force), and soon may even come in packaging that can be eaten! Now that's revolutionary.

At RESULTS and RESULTS Educational Fund, we're not satisfied with anti-poverty programs that merely sop the wounds of poverty. We seek out and advocate for methods that can make poverty a memory. In this way, RESULTS leads the curve. We did it for micro-finance and for funding for child survival. Now we're addressing inequitable health care systems and forgotten diseases that trap people in poverty. And we remain an integral force behind microfinance and other life-changing ideas.

The recent Social Business and Microeconomic Opportunities for Youth Conference provided a platform for Yunus' idea of social business. The amazing event was organized by Colorado RESULTS activists in partnership with eight other organizations. Yunus and Emmanuel Faber, co-chief operating officer of Groupe Danone, inspired over 500 attendees with their collaboration, while the crème-de-la-crème of microfinance — from John Hatch of FINCA to Alex Counts of the Grameen Foundation — presented spectacular forums and training sessions. Alongside these luminaries were RESULTS activists from all over the U.S. and a large contingent of young people committed to social justice.

Social business is a concept that may revolutionize microfinance. The inspiring young people who came to the conference will be at the forefront of turning it into a widespread reality. We'll be beside them, leading the curve again.

*Christine Taylor*

NOBEL LAUREATES ARCHBISHOP TUTU AND MUHAMMAD YUNUS

INSIDE

**RESULTS/RESULTS Educational Fund's 2008 International Conference will be July 12-16, 2008, in Washington, DC.**

**Please Join Us!**

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RESULTS

## Putting Health Care on Top of the Election Agenda

Imagine health care that can *never be taken away* — not because of a change in employment nor because of a preexisting condition. Imagine health care that is *affordable for everyone*. Imagine an *effective and patient-centered* system that is available to *all Americans*, no matter their circumstances.

With our Health Care for All by 2010 campaign, RESULTS is asking Americans, and particularly members of Congress, to not only imagine a truly sustainable health care system, but to commit to making it happen. We're taking our health care campaign to congressional candidates to ensure that reform is a major issue in the 2008 elections.



Gagan Gupta is a health policy fellow with RESULTS through the Congressional Hunger Center.

It's obvious our health care system is in trouble. The U.S. spends more than \$2 trillion on medical care every year,

yet nearly 47 million Americans — including 9 million children — lack health insurance. Of these uninsured, 82 percent are in working families.

It's also clear that Americans want candidates to address the issue. According to a recent AFL-CIO online survey of over 26,000 people, 95 percent of respondents believe America's health care system needs fundamental change or to be completely rebuilt, and 79 percent say health care is a very important voting issue.

"It's in the top domestic issues for what matters most to voters," said Katie Gjertson, National Field Coordinator for the AFL-CIO Health Care Reform Campaign, who spoke to RESULTS' activists on our national conference call in April. To make

### The State of Health Care in America

- **Seventy-six percent of people who lack insurance say someone in their family did not visit a doctor in the past year because of cost (AFL-CIO).**
- **22,000 adults died in 2006 for lack of adequate health care (Families USA).**
- **Sixty-one percent of people with uninsured children had to choose between paying for medical care and other essential needs (AFL-CIO).**
- **Despite spending more per capita on health care than any other country in the world, the U.S. ranks poorly in important measures of health system performance, including infant mortality rates (The Commonwealth Fund).**

reform actually happen, though, "It's going to take many of us linking arms and saying now is the time. It takes an organized group speaking to Congress and getting members of Congress and candidates ... to become champions for health care."

RESULTS excels at creating champions in Congress. Now our activists are reaching out to congressional candidates before they are elected to office, letting them know what voters want through face-to-face meetings, public appearances, and letters. Our chapters are hosting house parties and community forums, at which candidates are invited to speak, as a way to partner with community allies and raise the importance of health care reform.

RESULTS activists are also bird-dogging, which is the tactic of asking pointed questions of politicians at public appearances in order to draw out their positions and win new policies. Asking questions that provoke a commitment from a politician in front of members of the public and media is the best way to hold politicians accountable for their promises. At town hall meetings, debates, candidate forums, and other events around the U.S., RESULTS activists are asking candidates: "If elected, will you support policies that get us to health care for all?"

For RESULTS, those policies are embodied in the principles developed by the Institute of Medicine's panel of nonpartisan experts. These call for a system of health care for all Americans that is universal, continuous, affordable, sustainable, and effective.

"When the United State achieves health care for all, it will strengthen families, communities, and the economy, and demonstrate what is best about American values," said Gagan Gupta, RESULTS Domestic Health Policy Fellow. "We can and must provide affordable, comprehensive, and portable health coverage for every American."

Between now and November, we'll be doing everything we can to put Health Care for All at the top of the agenda for every representative and senator that takes office in 2009.

- **Since 2001, premiums for family coverage have increased 78 percent, while wages have gone up only 19 percent (Kaiser Family Foundation).**
- **Millions of workers don't have the opportunity to get health coverage. A third of firms in the U.S. did not offer coverage in 2006 because of rising costs (National Coalition on Health Care).**
- **The lost economic value of not insuring every American is estimated to be between \$65 billion and \$130 billion annually (Institute of Medicine).**

## CAMPAIGN UPDATES

### Making Strides to End Hunger in America

RESULTS IS CELEBRATING A VICTORY! In May, the House and Senate passed a new Farm Bill, which will help more than 10 million people struggling with hunger in the Unites States by updating nutrition programs like food stamps and emergency food aid.

This outcome, without a doubt, would not have occurred without our grassroots volunteers. At the beginning of this process, we were told by members of Congress to expect little, if any, change in nutrition programs. However, rising food prices are leaving far too many Americans vulnerable, so RESULTS activists, along with allies and champions like Rep. Jim McGovern (D-MA), pushed relentlessly. Through 16 months of meetings, calls, letters, editorials, op-eds, and e-mails, we set the stage for Congress to act. Ultimately, Congress allocated \$10.4 billion over 10 years for new nutrition funding, the largest funding increase of any section of the Farm Bill. And *we* did it — not the paid lobbyists, not the pundits, not the experts.

Needless, to say, more must be done both to reduce hunger and to improve our farm policies, especially the commodity payment system that hurts farmers overseas and exacerbates global poverty. But we've laid a foundation. As Rep. McGovern said before the House vote: "This bill — the effort put forth by the anti-hunger community and by many members of Congress — is just a start. With a continued and dedicated effort, this can truly be the beginning of the end of hunger in America."

We at RESULTS could not agree more.

### Social Business and Microeconomic Opportunities for Youth Conference

“THIS HAS BEEN THE BEST CONFERENCE ON MICROCREDIT I have been to in 18 years,” exclaimed John Hatch, founder of the microfinance organization FINCA. The Social Business and Microeconomic Opportunities for Youth Conference, held in Denver, Colorado in March, was organized by RESULTS activists Tanal Myers and Bob Sample and cosponsored by RESULTS Educational Fund (REF). Over 500 people traveled from all over the U.S. to take part, including leading microfinance practitioners, academics, students, and representatives from multinational corporations, nongovernmental organizations, and businesses interested in ending youth poverty.

Colorado Governor Bill Ritter introduced Nobel laureate and RESULTS/REF board member Muhammad Yunus whose keynote address outlined his vision for a new “social business” model that combines the dynamics of markets with the human impulse to make the world a better place. With him was Emmanuel Faber, co-chief operating officer of Groupe Danone (producer of Dannon Yogurt and other products) who shared how Danone collaborated with Grameen

Bank to create Grameen Danone. The new company produces affordable, fortified yogurt in a small factory in Bangladesh, providing children with 30 percent of their daily nutrition requirements and adults with needed employment.

Inspiring talks like these and panels on strategies for ending youth poverty resulted in numerous new commitments to create social businesses around the world.

“It was a privilege for all who participated to be part of this auspicious birth of a social business movement to harness the engine of capitalism for the end of hunger and poverty,” said Bob Sample.

### RESULTS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE REAL ACTION. REAL CHANGE. THE END OF POVERTY.

Join us for the RESULTS/RESULTS Educational Fund International Conference in Washington, DC, July 12-16.

This year we have plenaries with leaders in the field speaking on the latest ideas to conquer poverty at home and abroad, including:

- ♦ *Global Health:* Michel Kazatchkine, Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.
- ♦ *Reforming Foreign Assistance:* The Honorable John McKay, Member of the Canadian Parliament, and Raymond C. Offenheiser, President of Oxfam America.
- ♦ *Health Reform in the U.S.:* Experts debate a single payer system and the presidential candidates' plans.

Frances Moore Lappé will be our banquet speaker and we'll have an opportunity to talk with David Lane, Executive Director of the ONE Campaign.

**Register today at [www.results.org](http://www.results.org) or by calling (202) 783-7100.**



Emmanuel Faber, Muhammad Yunus, and Bob Sample in Denver.

## RESULTS PARTNERS IN ACTION

### In Bangladesh, the Power of RESULTS' Work Is Clear

By Ken Patterson

A smile broke across the face of the 18-year-old TB patient as he took the tiny pills that would save his life. Watching this, I found myself wishing that every RESULTS volunteer and donor could witness what can be achieved when poverty alleviation is taken to a large scale. In March, REF staff took four congressional aides to see the work of the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Council (BRAC), an organization that makes clear that **alleviating poverty in the most challenging situations is possible.**

BRAC reaches 86 million people with TB services, provides over 7 million Bangladeshis with microfinance, and operates 34,000 schools for children. One of BRAC's 70,000 volunteer health workers stood out for me. After explaining how she makes daily rounds to bring TB treatment and other basic medical supplies to sick villagers, she thanked us profusely for our support and asked us to pray that she might serve her village even better.

My experience in Bangladesh reinforced my understanding of TB as a root cause of poverty. Without proper diagnosis and treatment, TB weakens and kills breadwinners and turns its carriers into outcasts. In many ways, TB has been the neglected stepchild of infectious diseases, with few champions to tell the world about the terrible toll it is taking on poor nations.

One of the most critical things RESULTS/REF does is shine a light on problems and solutions that others may not see. We shone a light on the power of child survival interventions and microfinance when others were not paying attention. Now we are doing the same for TB.

I bring back another message for RESULTS volunteers: **not a single moment of the time you spend advocating for the voiceless is wasted.** Every effort we make to reach our representatives, the media, and our communities is of the highest value. It was clear in Bangladesh that providing people with an opportunity to live a full life is very hard work. I also know what our activists do is hard — often uncomfortable, time consuming, and not instantaneously rewarding. But it is the best work we can do from where we live. It provides loans to women who would otherwise have no options, it opens classrooms to switch on the brains and the imaginations of children, and it furnishes medicines small enough to fit in the palm of a child's hand, yet big enough to keep a loved one alive.

Our decision makers, media, and communities must hear from you — you are the ones called to do this hard work. I assure you that it is the right work.

*Ken Patterson has been involved with RESULTS since 2002, first as a volunteer activist and group leader and now as RESULTS' Global Grassroots Manager.*



These Bangladeshi children are getting an education as well as health care because of the comprehensive work of BRAC.

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