HOW HAVE YOU HELPED TO CHANGE THE WORLD IN 2019?

It’s been a chaotic year in UK politics, yet despite this we’ve managed to work together to achieve some big gains that will make a real difference to the lives of people living in poverty around the world.

Thank you for all you for all the incredible campaigning you’ve been doing this year!

**JANUARY**

RESULTS campaigners kicked off the year by writing to the then Secretary of State for International Development, Penny Mordaunt MP, asking her to ensure Ministerial level representation at July’s High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. Despite having received some positive responses, the event wasn’t the Global Goals milestone we expected it to be, and Parliament’s International Development Committee shared our concerns that more could have been made of this opportunity.

**FEBRUARY**

Congratulations to the Edinburgh and Linlithgow RESULTS groups, who persuaded Miles Briggs MSP to table a Motion in the Scottish Parliament to mark Scotland’s proud history of taking action against TB, in the run-up to World TB Day. The Motion was supported by 35 MSPs and gained cross-party support.

**MARCH**

On Valentine’s Day, Richard from the London RESULTS group joined other TB advocates to deliver a letter to International Development Minister Alistair Burt MP. With a red heart balloon in hand to show their love for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, they sent a clear message to the UK Government that it must be ambitious with its pledge for the Fund’s Sixth Replenishment in October.

In Bournemouth on 16 March, Poole RESULTS group members braved high winds on the seafront to lead a discussion on how to gain the support of a wider public audience.

In honour of World TB Day, Mark from RESULTS Norwich wrote two fantastic pieces amplifying the message that “It’s Time to end TB” which were published on the Institute of Biomedical Science site and on the Norfolk and Norwich University hospitals blog.

Stort Valley RESULTS Group pulled off a hat-trick in March, not only persuading local MP Mark Prisk to take action on aid and malnutrition, but also getting published in both the online and print versions of the Bishop’s Stortford Independent.
Richard from the London RESULTS group organised an event in Westminster to mark World Health Day 2019. Organised in partnership with Young Professionals in Foreign Policy, the meeting heard directly from the Secretary of State for International Development, Penny Mordaunt MP on issues such as the UK’s Voluntary National Review of progress against the Global Goals and the importance of global health and education.

In Norwich on 3 April, Mark joined an animated discussion about the wide range of activity that is already going on across the city to deliver and promote international development efforts around the world.

World Immunisation Week (24 - 30 April) was the perfect opportunity to highlight that #VaccinesWork! Gill from Stort Valley Group wrote an article on how Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance has supported immunisation in Ghana, which was published in the Independent Catholic News and Bentley from the Linlithgow Group wrote an article on the “Miracle of Vaccines” that was featured in the Linlithgow Gazette.

RESULTS campaigners came together for the National Conference (1-3 June) in London, which showcased a diverse line-up of speakers who shared their thoughts on the challenges we face, including the increasing urgency of acting on climate change, the need to listen to voices from the Global South, and how we can engage with people with very different ideas from our own.

A dozen keen advocates got together to learn about the importance of nutrition in achieving the SDGs and to map out the opportunities coming up to influence the UK’s role in funding nutrition globally.

Our Advocacy day saw campaigners meet with DFID’s Nutrition and Global Funds teams, plus a joint meeting with and representatives from the Cabinet Office, DFID and the Department of Health and Social Care about the UK’s role in universal health coverage and multiple replenishments. We also had the opportunity to meet with two MPs and Matthew Rycroft, DFID’s Permanent Secretary on the upcoming replenishments and the co-dependency of health and nutrition.

A big campaign win! On 29 June, at the G20 Summit of world leaders, Prime Minister Theresa May pledged that the UK would provide £1.4 billion to the sixth replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. A financial commitment of this size will help save an estimated 2 million lives.
A great many of you wrote to DFID Minister Dr. Andrew Murrison MP, asking him to commit £400 million to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, to help eradicate polio for good and achieve health for all. We received some promising responses thanking campaigners for their hard work and shared vision of a polio-free world.

We were delighted to hear the Prime Minister’s announcement that the UK will pledge £90 million to the Education Cannot Wait fund. RESULTS groups played a big part in demonstrating there is public support for funding education for the most marginalised. This pledge will support the education of almost 600,000 children and young people caught up in humanitarian emergencies, including armed conflicts, natural disasters and protracted crises.

Layla in London wrote a blog on the UK’s role in the Nutrition for Growth agenda in 2020, with a call to action which saw many of you using her template letter to email your MP to ask the Secretary of State for International Development to fully fund vital global nutrition programmes.

Members of the Poole group were out campaigning over the bank holiday weekend, speaking with members of the public about UK Aid. They also raised over £600 for RESULTS with their famous cream tea fundraiser!

Gill from the RESULTS Stort Valley Group organised an event called ‘Food for Thought’ on 28 September in London. Bringing together faith-based organisations to examine hunger and food poverty in the UK and globally, the event featured a speaker from End Hunger UK and Callum Northcote, our very own Policy Advocacy Officer for Nutrition. Around 30 people took part in a very successful and informative day.

The Stort Valley RESULTS group ran their long-standing annual charity fundraiser in Harlow college car park on 5 October, charging £2 for each car parked (not bad for all-day parking!). As well as raising over £250 for RESULTS’ work, they used the opportunity to talk to members of the public about the issues we work on.

We were delighted to see that, during the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria’s replenishment conference in Lyon, France on 10 October, international donors stepped up the plate to pledge a total of US $14 billion, the sum the Global Fund had been asking for to help it meet their targets to end the three deadly diseases!
The global response to HIV, TB and malaria over the next three years was riding on how successful the Global Fund replenishment was. The UK’s funding for TB programmes is solely through the Global Fund, so we were really hoping for a strong pledge to demonstrate their commitment to fighting TB, especially following the commitment’s made at last year’s UN High-Level Meeting on TB. The grassroots volunteers played a crucial role in securing the UK pledge we wanted to see, by demonstrating that UK citizens were watching and expecting a pledge that matched the UK’s capacity.

RACHAEL HORE
Policy Advocacy Officer for Tuberculosis

The London RESULTS group ran a successful recruitment event, and got new and existing members to write and post letters to Secretary of State for International Development, Alok Sharma MP, asking the UK to help build health for all, brick by brick complementing the pledge to the Global Fund by fully funding the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Nutrition for Growth agenda.

After having written letters earlier in the year to the Dr. Andrew Murrison MP and later, Alok Sharma MP on the need to fully fund the eradication of polio for good, we welcomed the UK’s announcement that they would pledge the £400 million we had been calling for to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. This money will help vaccinate 750 children every minute against polio in countries around the world!

Helen and other members of the Poole RESULTS group attended a One World Fair event in Wiltshire to talk to attendees about the importance of the UK’s international development work.

A group from around the country got together in Sheffield to go back-to-basics and learn how to engage our Parliamentarians and strengthen our local networks.

The London group ended the year together by preparing for meetings with their newly-elected and returning MPs in the new year and to plan for the rest of 2020. This was followed by a well-deserved Christmas social!

Callum Northcote
Policy Advocacy Officer for Nutrition

It would be hard for me to count the amount of times civil servants have mentioned RESULTS grassroots to me. Every letter or grassroots action makes a difference far beyond that act in itself. It creates a ripple throughout the conversations we need to influence and in 2019 has helped to put nutrition firmly on the agenda. With competing voices and finite resources these actions are so important. Every time I go to a meeting I know that the work and effort of RESULTS volunteers will amplify my messages. It cannot be overstated, the RESULTS grassroots volunteers impact is unparalleled.

Callum Northcote
Policy Advocacy Officer for Nutrition