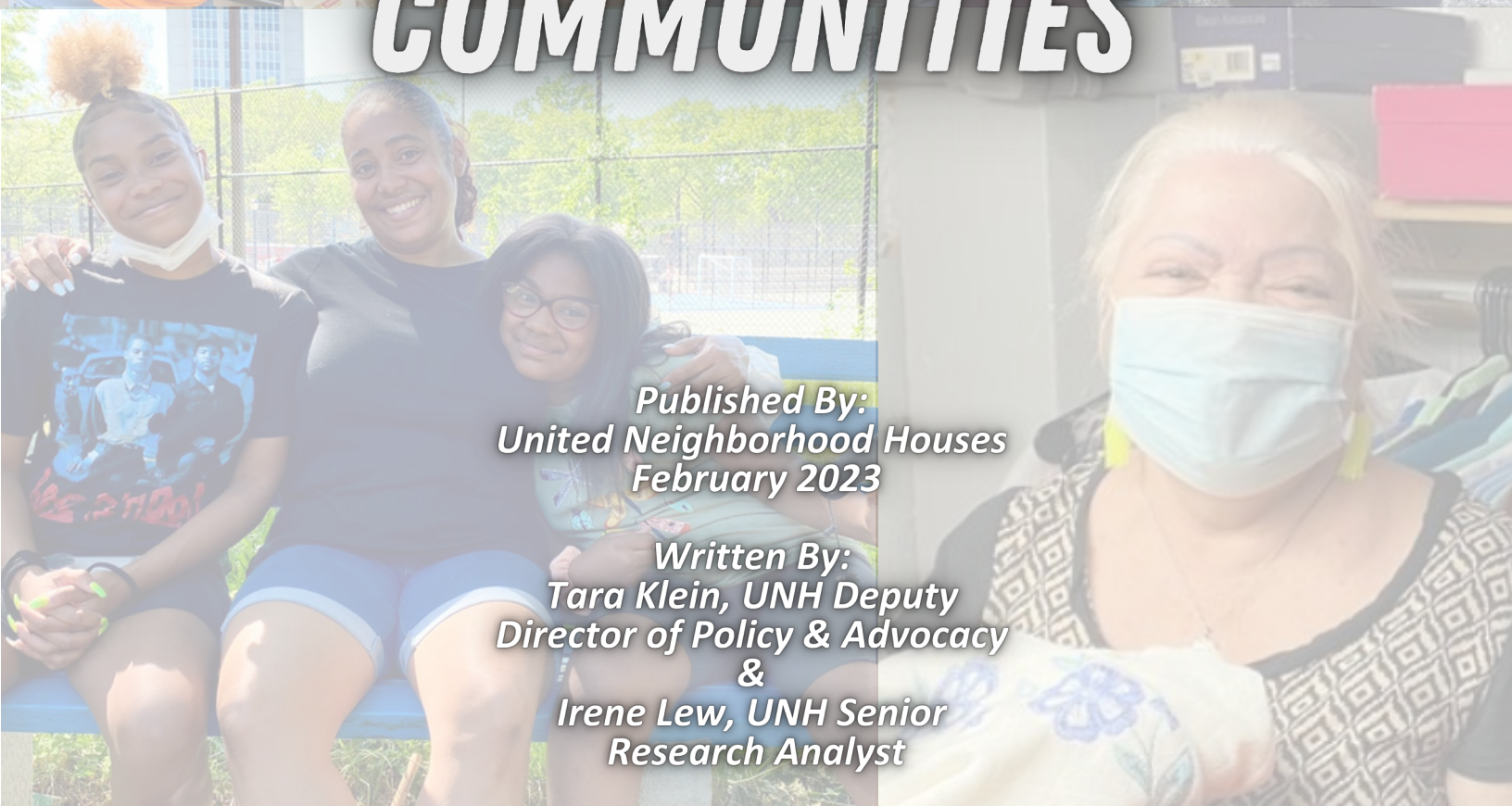
UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES

SETTLEMENT HOUSE STRONG:

HOW THE SETTLEMENT HOUSE PROGRAM BUILDS NEW YORK'S COMMUNITIES



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Settlement House Strong: How the Settlement House Program Builds New York's Communities

The New York State Settlement House Program (SHP) provides innovative, flexible funding for a comprehensive array of community-based services that strengthen neighborhoods and families across the State. The Settlement House Program improves the economic security and well-being of New Yorkers in a variety of ways–access to healthy food, assistance with enrollment into public benefit and housing subsidy programs, youth development, college counseling, bilingual case management, and ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages) classes for immigrant families.

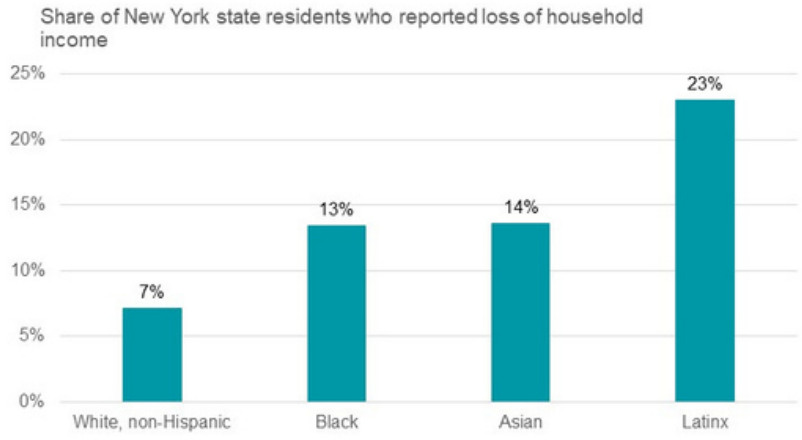
The Settlement House Program originally began as a legislative initiative in the New York State Assembly over 25 years ago. Today, the SHP is administered by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) as multiyear contracts to settlement houses, neighborhood-based organizations that are deeply embedded in their communities. Settlement houses provide multi-generational, multi-ethnic services to support individuals, families, and communities across ages, from children to older adults. Settlement house programs build bonds within and between communities and create networks for civic engagement and social change. The majority of services funded by the SHP are provided through United Neighborhood Houses' (UNH) membership network of 46 settlement houses that reach 765,000 New Yorkers from all walks of life. UNH's network of settlement houses have a collective budget of over $1 billion with more than 750 program sites throughout New York State.

Unlike other government funding streams, SHP funds are not restricted to specific program categories, and this funding provides settlement houses with flexibility in determining how to best allocate these dollars to effectively address the diverse needs of their communities. The flexible spending aspect of the SHP aligns with the settlement house model itself, which seeks to tackle the multiple, intertwined challenges facing families, all under one roof. SHP funding enables settlement houses to braid funding streams in order to provide the comprehensive, holistic supports and wraparound services that their communities need to thrive. This brief will share details on how settlement houses are using their SHP funds to address the various challenges New Yorkers continue to face since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, from combating food insecurity, homelessness and youth disconnection, to improving public benefits access, educating and fostering the mental health of young people, and supporting immigrant families and older adults (see Appendix for a full list). This brief underscores the importance of enhancing the Settlement House Program and making the program a permanent budget line. A recurring investment of $5 million a year would increase New Yorker's access to the responsive services provided through the SHP.

Settlement houses allocate SHP funding to address important needs and challenges in their communities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic

Investment in settlement houses strengthens communities throughout New York that are still recovering from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic exacerbated existing racial and socioeconomic disparities in many communities across New York State. At the end of 2022, 23 percent of Latinx New Yorkers who responded to the Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey reported that they or someone in their household lost employment income in the past four weeks, more than three times the share of White New Yorkers who experienced this hardship.

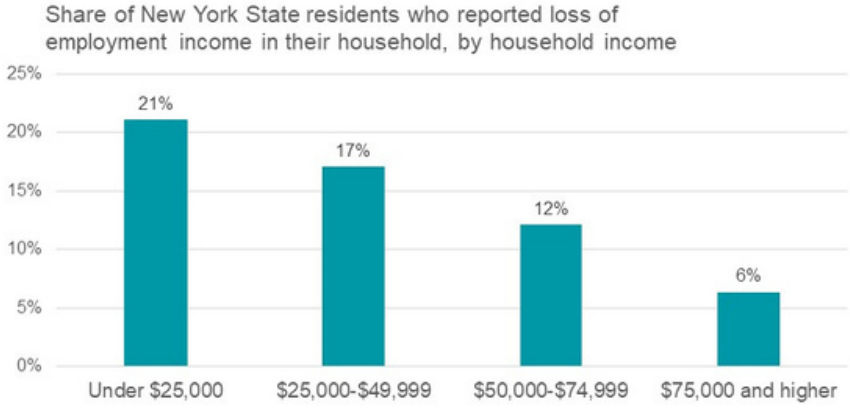
Figure 1



Source: UNH tabulations of data from US Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, November 2-December 19, 2022

Furthermore, the lowest-income New Yorkers continue to bear the brunt of job loss–between November and December 2022, 21 percent of New Yorkers earning less than $25,000 a year reported loss of household employment income, three times higher than the share of those earning $75,000 or more annually.

Figure 2



Source: UNH tabulations of data from US Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, November 2-December 19, 2022

The solution to an inclusive recovery in New York State requires a comprehensive, neighborhood-based approach to addressing the complex needs of low-income New Yorkers. Low-income New Yorkers are often struggling with multiple, intertwined challenges such as unemployment or employment in low-wage jobs that make it difficult to meet basic needs, housing instability, trauma, and lack of access to affordable healthcare that makes it difficult to treat chronic health conditions. Settlement houses are a “one-stop shop” New Yorkers know they can turn to when they are seeking support with these multiple challenges. Funding from the Settlement House Program makes it possible for New Yorkers to receive the help they need to climb up the economic ladder, as well as improve their physical and mental health.

Here are some ways in which the Settlement House Program is strengthening communities throughout New York State.

Combating food insecurity and improving access to healthy food

Nearly three years since the start of the pandemic, families within the settlement house network continue to struggle with food insecurity as stagnant incomes have failed to keep up with inflation. On average, food and beverage prices have increased by 15 percent in the Northeast between October 2020 and October 2022.[1] Inflation is now at 40-year highs, leading to higher prices for grocery staples and forcing families in settlement house communities to make difficult spending tradeoffs between healthier food options and cheaper fast-food options.

"Access to good, healthy food is definitely something that's stressed me out," noted one parent within the settlement house network. "I worry about once a month about running out of food in the house. I prioritize and buy what my son needs first and then go to the pantry for what we adults need."

Data from the Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey confirms that food insufficiency remains a problem in New York, with more than one out of every 10 New Yorkers (11 percent) who reported that their household did not have enough food to eat in the past seven days, as of November to December 2022.

Funding from the SHP improves access to healthy food in communities, especially in neighborhoods where there are few full-service supermarkets with access to fresh produce. For example, in the Bronx, SHP funding helps subsidize **Bronx House's** Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) boxes for families who attend their early childhood and youth programs on healthy eating. SHP funding also supports food distribution efforts–for example, in Syracuse, SHP dollars help support staffing and inventory of **Syracuse Northeast Community Center's** basic needs pantry. Syracuse Northeast has reported a growing demand for the pantry from communities of color, as well as immigrants and refugees.

Supporting immigrant youth and families

The Settlement House Program's flexible funding model also allows settlement houses to maximize existing funding streams and better meet the diverse needs of immigrant youth and families statewide. This is especially important as nearly 40,000 asylum seekers have arrived in New York City since spring 2022, the majority of them Venezuelans fleeing the country's brutal dictatorship–these individuals and families need supportive services such as food, medical care, and case management that will help them figure out their next steps.[2] An estimated 75,000 Ukrainians have arrived in the U.S. since the start of the Russian invasion in February 2022, with about 14,000 refugees living in New York through the federal government's resettlement program.[3]

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[1] U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, referenced in 2023 State of the State Book: https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2023-01/2023SOTSBook.pdf

[2] Sommerfeldt, Chris. *NY Daily News.* "Migrants turned away from NYC's overcrowded 'relief centers' after arriving from Colorado, sent to homeless shelters: sources." https://www.nydailynews.com/news/politics/new-york-elections-government/ny-migrants-turned-away-from-nyc-emergency-hotels-colorado-20230109-phvwp476ivcvfikkhsg5vbd74i-story.html. January 9, 2023.

[3] Reisman, NIck. Spectrum News1. "New York receives $21 m to help refugees from Ukraine." November 15, 2022. https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/central-ny/ny-state-of-politics/2022/11/15/new-york-receives--21m-to-help-resettle-refugees-from-ukraine#:~

Morgan, a mother of three children, visits her settlement house routinely to participate in classes. "When I got here, my mother in-law told me I have to learn English. But the settlement house offered more than just English classes. I have studied English, and participated in classes for people who are pregnant. I received training in order to start a company. I took a class on how to fill out my taxes. I have learned a lot there since I came to this country."

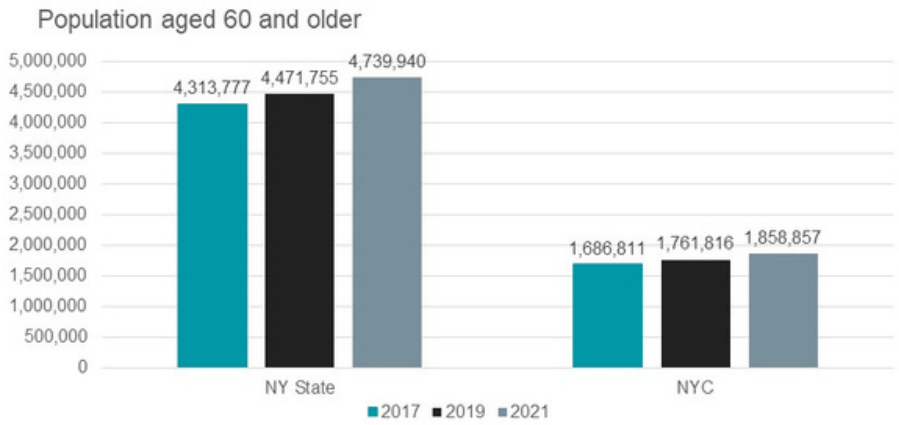
In southern Brooklyn, **Shorefront YM-YWHA of Brighton-Manhattan Beach** uses SHP funding to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services such as case management, financial assistance, and public benefit screening and enrollment. Shorefront Y's programs serve predominantly immigrants from Eastern European countries that were part of the former Soviet Union and a growing number of newly arrived Ukrainian refugees fleeing the Russia-Ukraine war. Shorefront Y staff are fluent in Russian, Ukrainian, Uzbek, Georgian, Kazakh, and other languages that are common among community members. After a full comprehensive assessment by a Shorefront Y case worker, participants are referred to a variety of services. In the past year, as a direct result of SHP funds, 18 families received assistance with applications for public housing, 25 families received help with applying for public benefits, and 28 families were referred to food pantries. Families also received referrals for free legal aid consultations, including 67 newly arrived Ukrainians. Furthermore, families received assistance with unemployment insurance, help with applying for affordable housing; support with obtaining subsidized child care, and other services.

SHP funding is also used to maximize the effectiveness of existing programs. At **Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement** in Queens, SHP funding helps subsidize the salary of a bilingual case worker leveraging other funding. The bilingual case manager partners with various Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement programs to provide more comprehensive and culturally competent services. In Rockland County, **Martin Luther King Multi-Purpose Center** uses SHP funding to add a bilingual educator/coordinator to their staff who designs academic content that is blended into existing afterschool, summer and youth employment programs. At **Greenwich House** in Lower Manhattan, SHP funding supports a portion of the salary for a Spanish-speaking therapist to provide intake assessments and treatment for children and families, with a focus and expertise in trauma-informed care and family therapy. In New York City, SHP funding supports **Arab American Family Support Center's** Adult Readiness Program, which provides comprehensive classes in Basic Literacy, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Civics, and Citizenship Prep to 867 participants over the past year. In the last year, 71 percent of post-tested students achieved literacy outcomes. Furthermore, all of the program participants who completed the USCIS Naturalization Interviews passed, for a total of 78 students who were able to pass their citizenship tests with AAFSC's help over the past year.

Combating isolation among older adults and helping improve their health and economic insecurity

New York is home to a steadily growing older adult population. This population needs community-based services to strengthen their food and economic security, as well as to age safely in their homes. Over the past five years, the number of older adults aged 60 and over statewide has increased by 10 percent, from 4.3 million in 2017 to 4.7 million in 2021.

Figure 3



Source: US Census Bureau, 1-year American Community Survey estimates

Five UNH settlement house members use SHP dollars for older adult services. These services improve digital literacy, provide transportation, enable older adults to remain in the workforce, and avoid the costly expenses of institutionalized, long-term care. On average, nursing home costs in New York State range from $135,936 per person in Central New York to as high as $160,980 per person in New York City each year,[4] while for a small fraction of that cost SHP funds help older people stay in their communities longer and avoid institutionalization.

In New York City, SHP funds support the **Chinese-American Planning Council's** efforts to help older adults remain in the workforce so that they can have a greater level of financial stability, including regular wellness checks. SHP dollars support older adult services in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, where **School Settlement Association** offers a range of older adult services such as wellness check-ins, activities, and lunch at the reopened Swinging Sixties Senior Center, and a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC)[5] located within the Lindsay Park affordable housing cooperative. In Rochester, SHP funds support **Southwest Area Neighborhood Association's** older adult nutrition program and their efforts to improve digital literacy among older adults.

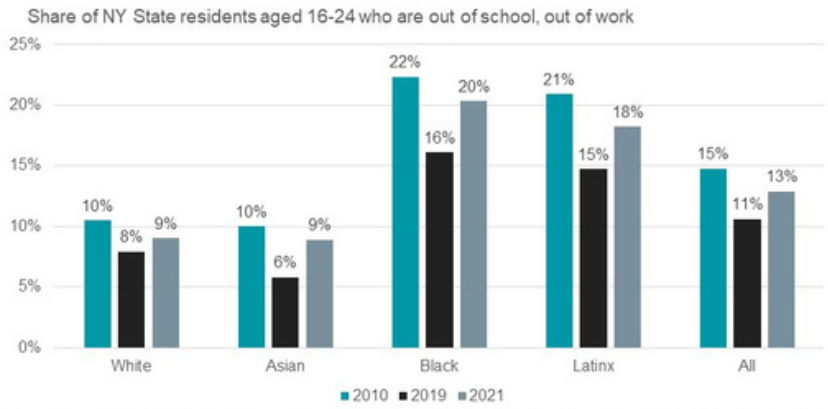
Positive youth development and combating youth disconnection

After a decade-long trend of declining numbers of teens and young adults who are neither working nor in school, youth disconnection rates have increased in New York State. In 2021, 13 percent of youth aged 16 to 24 in New York State were neither working nor in school. Despite notable improvements in disconnection rates among young Black and Latinx New Yorkers, disconnection rates among these two groups have edged up and are now approaching levels from the Great Recession. Young Black and Latinx New Yorkers continue to have the highest rates of disconnection from school and the labor force—in 2021, 1 in of 5 Black New Yorkers (20 percent) aged 16 to 24 were neither working nor in school, up from 16 percent prior to the pandemic in 2019; and a similar share of Latinx New Yorkers (18 percent) were disconnected from the school and labor market.

[4] https://nyspltc.health.ny.gov/rates.htm; Statewide, Genworth notes that annual median costs are $153,300 for a semi-private room in a nursing home facility. See: https://www.genworth.com/aging-and-you/finances/cost-of-care.html#close

[5] A naturally occurring retirement community (NORC) is a community or neighborhood with a growing population of older adults in which the dwellings were not purposefully intended for older adults when they were originally designed and/or built.

Figure 4



Source: UNH tabulations of US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Accessed via IPUMS, University of Minnesota.

The economic impacts of the pandemic have been borne by young people, who were more likely to be employed in job sectors hardest-hit by COVID-19-related job losses, including food service, hospitality, and retail.[6]

Even before the pandemic, young people served by settlement houses were experiencing a number of barriers to remaining connected to school and the labor force, including homelessness, intergenerational poverty, and community violence. SHP funding supports the needs of disconnected youth at **CAMBA's** Flagstone Family Shelter in Brooklyn, which houses 31 youth ages 16-17, and 69 youth 18-24 years old. Of these young adults, nearly a third (31 percent) are parents; some are part of three-generation families and some are heads of their households. These young adults have entered the shelter system for a variety of reasons, including economic hardship, domestic violence, teen pregnancy, and health and mental health issues. SHP funding enables these young people to receive intensive support and guidance to overcome these barriers and prepares them for independent living and future careers. SHP funding supports the Leaders Connect Program at Flagstone, where an Advocate Counselor assists young people with developing comprehensive life plans that include both short- and long-term achievable goals.

SHP funding supports the **Kingsbridge Heights Community Center** Teen Center, which serves over 300 Bronx youth aged 12 to 21 annually through educational support, college access, leadership development, service opportunities, job training and internships, and skills building through technology, groups, arts, wellness initiatives, and recreation. Kingsbridge Heights Community Center's Teen Center program provides a hot meal nightly and is open until 9 pm to ensure safety and consistency for young people who may lack this structure at home.

In Brooklyn, **St. Nicks Alliance** uses SHP funds to address barriers to remaining in school—SHP dollars help support a counselor who provides school attendance improvement/drop-out prevention services at a site that is home to three co-located Title I high schools. The counselor provides one-on-one and small group counseling to 25-30 chronically absent students. This counseling led to a consistent improvement in attendance, by 20 or more percentage points, to 82 percent on average.

[6] https://www.nyc.gov/assets/youthemployment/downloads/pdf/dytf-connecting-our-future-report.pdf

Settlement houses are using SHP funds to empower young people to be leaders and role models in their communities. **United Community Centers**, a settlement house serving East New York, Brooklyn, uses SHP funding for their peer educators sexual health program, which trains 40 young people between the ages of 15- to 20-years-old to speak with their peers about the importance of sexual health and safe sex; the funds pay stipends for youth peer educators in the program. In Manhattan, SHP funds support **Broadway Housing Communities'** Youth Leadership Institute, which provides resident and neighborhood youth with employment opportunities, leadership development, and educational advocacy. Youth participants live in Broadway Housing Communities' five affordable and supportive housing properties in Washington Heights and West Harlem.

Addressing youth mental health needs exacerbated by COVID-19

Over the past three years, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated mental health, trauma and social-emotional development issues among youth served by settlement houses. In Rochester, SHP funding supports **Southwest Area Neighborhood Association's** therapy program for youth. Meanwhile, in response to the increased need for mental health services during the pandemic, SHP funding has matched other dollars to enable **WHEDco** to fund the salaries and benefits of two social workers who serve students and families participating in WHEDco's afterschool programs in the South Bronx. In the past year, WHEDco's on-site mental health supportive services have improved the overall stability and well-being of approximately 80 students and 80 parents. Over the school year, WHEDco's social workers helped students and their families deal with grief, trauma, and mental health challenges, and ensured that youth remained engaged with their teachers, mentors, and peers. For example, last year, a 14-year old student struggling with the transition to in-person classes at her middle school was referred to WHEDco's social worker. After a year of remote learning, she experienced difficulties interacting with staff and students. WHEDco's social worker encouraged her to learn techniques that would reduce anxiety-inducing thoughts and help her increase her confidence in social settings through Cognitive Behavioral Therapy.

With the support of the SHP, **Henry Street Settlement** provides athletics programming for youth at six sites across the Lower East Side, where 47 percent of young people aged 13 to 17 live in poverty.[7] Henry Street Settlement's athletics programming uses sports as a social intervention for youth to build community with mentors and peers and develop social-emotional skills such as discipline, cooperation, leadership, and teamwork. In the past year,[8] Henry Street Settlement's athletics programming reached 670 young people through three in-house basketball leagues and weekly open gym hours. Additionally, the athletics programming serves as an entry point for additional mental health and social services, as participants in need of more intensive support are referred to an on-site social worker who provides counseling, mediation, crisis intervention, and referrals to Henry Street Settlement's suite of wraparound social services. In the past year,[9] 44 youth athletes were connected to Henry Street Settlement's social worker and received counseling and mental health services.

[7] UNH tabulations of 5-year 2016-2020 American Community Survey data. Accessed via IPUMS USA, University of Minnesota.
[8] Fiscal Year 2022
[9] Ibid

Source: Grand Street Settlement

Bolstering afterschool programming

SHP funds also provide critical funding for afterschool programming. Afterschool programming is the foundation of positive youth development. A 2020 Afterschool Alliance survey found that 77 percent of New York State parents agreed that afterschool programs provide access to caring adults and mentors.[10] Effective afterschool programs also build youth self-confidence and interpersonal skills, while reinforcing school-day instruction. Research shows that afterschool programs contribute to significant increases in youth self-perception and bonding to school, as well as in their academic achievement levels.[11]

In Western Queens, SHP funds support the salaries of staff members at two youth programs operated by **Sunnyside Community Services**, including program directors and instructors. At the Cornerstone Community Center located in NYCHA's Woodside Houses, funds enhance afterschool and weekend programming for 30 middle and high school students living in public housing. These programs support academic success, while also aiming to prevent youth violence. Programming includes workshops, positive physical recreational activities and project-based leadership and civic engagement activities. SHP funds also support Sunnyside Community Services' afterschool programming for 20 homeless young people.

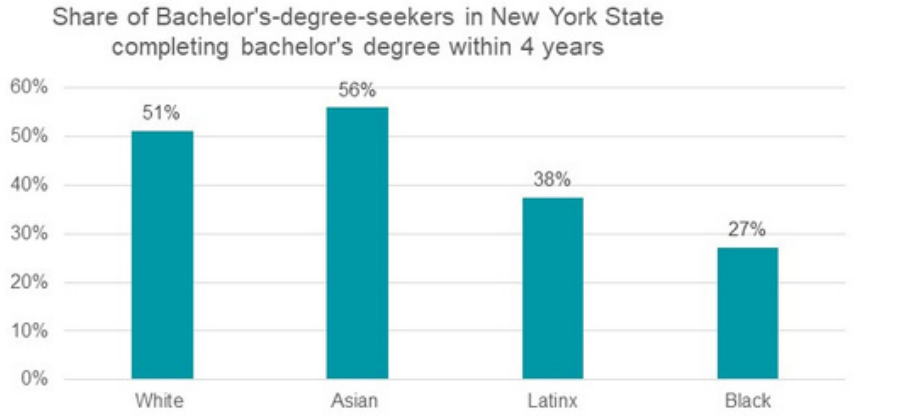
In the Bronx, SHP dollars help support afterschool programming for 40 children in kindergarten through fifth grade at **Mosholu Montefiore Community Center,** with an emphasis on addressing developmental, social emotional and behavioral disabilities. Mosholu Montefiore Community Center's afterschool programs serve a high-need population, which includes children in foster care, those with incarcerated family members, and children who have fallen behind academically due to the pandemic. The model includes a 3:1 student to staff member ratio, with a once-a-week session that focuses on communication, anger management and academic needs. In Manhattan, SHP funds support **Hartley House's** afterschool program for children aged 5 to 12, meeting a crucial gap in out-of-school-time programming in Hell's Kitchen. Currently, the neighborhood lacks a city-funded free afterschool program. Hartley House's program offers a safe environment for 43 neighborhood children to develop their academic, creative, and leadership skills.

[10] Afterschool Alliance. America after 3pm 2020 data for New York state. https://www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/data/geo/New%20York/healthy-futures
[11] Durlak, Joseph A., and Roger P. Weissberg. "The impact of after-school programs that promote personal and social skills." Collaborative for academic, social, and emotional learning (NJ1) (2007). Accessed from: https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED505368.pdf

Improving access to higher education, college readiness and college completion among low-income New Yorkers of color

SHP funding helps break down the barriers that stand in the way of college success for many young low-income New Yorkers of color. As of August 2020, just 38 percent of Latinx students and 27 percent of Black students enrolled in New York State-based bachelor's degree programs completed their degree within four years, compared to more than half of White students and an even higher share of Asian students (56 percent).

Figure 5



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Graduation Rates component (August 2020 data).

The geographic disparities in postsecondary educational attainment are especially stark. As of 2021, just 29 percent of Bronx residents aged 22 to 34 have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to more than three-quarters (76 percent) of Manhattan residents in this age group.[12] In the Bronx, SHP funding supports five UNH members in providing college access programming targeted at first-generation, low-income youth. SHP funds enable **Bronx House** to cover the costs for youth to attend SAT prep programming, and to provide transportation for college tours and fairs. The SHP bolsters **East Side House's** college access programming by supporting a staff member who works with youth on SAT prep, as well as navigating college applications and campus visits. SHP funding also supports **Kingsbridge Heights Community Center's** College Directions program, which prepares youth for college through individual counseling and coaching; provides guidance on their transition to college; and supports them in remaining enrolled. The majority—90 percent—of young people participating in Kingsbridge Heights Community Center's program are accepted into college, and 75 percent of them are the first in their families to attend college. Furthermore, SHP dollars support **BronxWorks'** college guidance and transition program, Center for Achieving Future Education (CAFÉ). SHP funding goes toward a BronxWorks staff member who counsels high school juniors and seniors on the selection of colleges, and on the completion of college and financial aid applications. During a three month period at the end of 2022, CAFÉ served 314 students who participated in weekly high school workshops, college workshops, and in-person college tours to SUNY schools, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and private institutions.

[12] UNH tabulations of 1-year 2021 American Community Survey data from US Census Bureau. Accessed via IPUMS USA, University of Minnesota.

In East New York, Brooklyn, just 18 percent of young people aged 22 to 34 are college graduates.[13] SHP funding enables **Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation** to hire and train youth leaders to offer peer college access counseling. Low-income high school students receive one-on-one support, including assistance with the completion of college essays, applications, and other financial aid forms, as well as college trips, early awareness programming and group workshops.

Improving access to public benefits and safety-net programs

Funding from the SHP enables UNH members throughout New York to connect community members to critical safety net benefits that have been a lifeline during a time of widespread job loss and financial instability related to the pandemic. For example, as of August 2022, the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) reported that nearly 2.9 million New Yorkers were enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps), up 10 percent from pre-pandemic levels (2.6 million in August 2019).[14]

On Manhattan's Upper East Side, SHP funding has enabled **Lenox Hill Neighborhood House** to assist families with applying or recertifying for SNAP benefits, as well as with obtaining or retaining affordable health insurance. On Staten Island, the SHP supports a staff member in coordinating **Project Hospitality's** benefits outreach program so that clients can be screened for and enrolled in any benefits for which they are eligible. In 2021-22, SHP funding enabled **Chinese-American Planning Council's** Manhattan Multi-Social Services Program to screen, assess, and assist 542 New Yorkers with accessing public benefits, including housing assistance, Medicaid, and SNAP. Furthermore, SHP funding has supported **Grand Street Settlement's** Benefits Assistance program, which connects over 1,000 families every year in Manhattan and Brooklyn to benefits and entitlements for which they qualify, including health, housing, nutrition, tax, and legal resources. In 2022, a total of 1,305 households (living in the Lower East Side, Bushwick, Williamsburg, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Clinton Hill, East New York, Brownsville and Sunset Park) were connected to benefits and services.

Grand Street Settlement (GSS) recently supported an asylee family of five from Ecuador who arrived in New York in October 2022. They received preliminary asylum-seeker status, but have not yet been granted asylum. GSS first engaged with the family at a Williamsburg school where GSS is the Community School [15] provider. The family visited the school in hopes of enrolling their two older children, and the school's main office called GSS in to provide Spanish-English translation for the meeting and to discuss with the family benefits for which they might qualify. GSS helped the parents fill out the enrollment applications for school and then conducted an intake and benefits screening, where GSS determined that the family was eligible for WIC for their youngest child and SNAP and health insurance for the whole family. GSS guided the family through the multi-step process, including instructions on necessary documents to gather, a referral to the local WIC center, and a meeting with GSS's health care navigator. GSS has successfully secured health insurance for the whole family, as well as WIC support and half-price MetroCards.

[13] UNH tabulations of 5-year 2016-2020 American Community Survey data. Accessed via IPUMS USA, University of Minnesota.
[14] NY State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Monthly Caseload Statistics. https://otda.ny.gov/resources/caseload/
[15] The community school strategy entails an integrated focus on academics, youth development, family support, health and social services, and community development with strategic partnerships among the school and local organizations and community members. The largest implementation of the community school strategy occurred in New York City, where there are now more than 200 community schools.

Combating homelessness

Low-income families within the UNH network continue to struggle with paying their rent and utility costs. According to a 2021 survey of 1,078 families within the UNH settlement house network, 52 percent reported difficulties with paying for housing in the past month, and 38 percent struggled to afford their utility costs.[16] Furthermore, recent data from the Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey found that housing insecurity remains widespread among New Yorkers, especially those with low incomes. Between November and December 2022, one out of every five (20 percent) of New York State residents aged 18 and over living in rental housing reported that they were behind on their rent payments, with this share rising to 33 percent among low-income renters with household income of less than $25,000 a year.

Funding from the SHP improves the housing stability of families throughout the state. In the Capital region, SHP dollars support **Trinity Alliance's** program focused on providing housing resources, financial assistance for families struggling with rental and utility arrears; and assistance with signing up for the state's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). Trinity Alliance's Housing Resource Navigator has assisted over 150 households with obtaining or retaining safe housing. Similarly, in New York City, SHP funding helps support **University Settlement's** Project Home, which provides eviction prevention services for low-income New Yorkers at risk of losing their homes as well as housing counseling, such as ensuring that New Yorkers know their housing rights, assisting with lease or repair issues, and helping with affordable housing applications. The program helps New Yorkers navigate bureaucratic and complicated systems to stay in their homes, often when they are experiencing additional external stressors, such as loss of income or loss of a family member.

Ms. P, a life-long tenant of NYCHA's Linden House in East New York, Brooklyn approached University Settlement in July 2022 for assistance regarding her tenancy rights. The original tenant was Ms. P's mother, who had rented the apartment using a Section 8 voucher, and passed away in December 2021. Since her mother did not officially report to NYCHA that her daughter was living in the apartment, Ms. P and her other family members were at risk of losing their long-time home. University Settlement responded quickly and assisted Ms. P in notifying NYCHA of the change in household composition. University Settlement also successfully advocated for and supported Ms. P. in taking over her mother's Section 8 voucher, ensuring Ms. P's family could stay in the apartment. University Settlement continues to work with the family to ensure the family's income recertification is completed and that their tenancy rights are secured.

Connecting families to comprehensive, wrap-around services to strengthen economic security

Funding through the SHP helps connect New York families to comprehensive supports that will help them address challenges holistically so that they can improve their upward mobility. At **Queens Community House**, SHP dollars help fund family support coordinators (FSCs) who are a part of their afterschool programs and work with families throughout the borough of Queens to ensure that they have the resources they need to enrich their child's learning. Furthermore, FSCs work with families to strengthen their economic security, including parenting support, benefits counseling, and referrals to other programs. Queens Community House created the role of FSC during the pandemic to provide comprehensive case management for households

[16] Survey was conducted during late 2021 by Educational Alliance (a UNH member) in collaboration with Columbia University's National Center for Children in Poverty and UNH. 17 settlement houses participated in the study, including Syracuse Northeast Community Center. For more information on Wave 1 survey findings, please visit: https://uploads.prod01.oregon.platform-os.com/instances/542/assets/SHARP-Impact-Study-Wave-1-Sep-2022.pdf?updated=1665709419

facing multiple issues or requiring extended support. In recent months, the FSC caseloads have increased, with many of Queens Community House's school-based programs enrolling newly arrived asylum-seeking families who are facing multiple challenges. FSCs conduct in-depth assessments, screen families for benefits like SNAP, Medicaid and WIC; and make internal referrals for housing, immigration legal assistance, mental health and workforce services. FSCs also oversee Queens Community House's emergency cash grants, which help prevent utilities from being shut off, provide infant needs such as diapers and formula, or offer food assistance until SNAP benefits are approved.

Ms. S is a single mother of two young children. She had originally enrolled in Queens Community House's (QCH) Eviction Prevention program in September 2021. At that time, she received assistance from QCH staff with applying for the NYS Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), and was eventually approved for $23,000 in rental assistance through ERAP. This past year, when QCH's Housing Specialist contacted Ms. S to inform her of her approved assistance, she shared that she was already accruing new rental arrears due to her inability to secure employment. She was then referred to an FSC. During her meeting with the FSC, Ms. S also mentioned that on top of her difficulties with securing employment, she had a three-year-old who was turning four in spring 2023 and had been unsuccessful in securing a seat for him in 3-K for All. Ms. S was reliant on informal care from her mother, which was no longer a viable option due to her mother's health. The FSC communicated with the QCH Queens Childcare Network (QCCN), which was able to advise her around 3-K enrollment, and her son was finally approved for an affordable option in fall 2022. The FSC also helped Ms. S. navigate enrollment for her 7- year-old in afterschool programming at a QCH school-based site for the fall. Furthermore, Ms. S found work as a medical assistant.

In a similar vein of providing support to the whole family, SHP dollars fund a social worker in **Educational Alliance's** Family Resource Center (FRC) on the Lower East Side. Since its launch in December 2020, the FRC continues to be the first point of introduction to Educational Alliance and its services, striving to help families meet needs in multiple areas of their lives. The FRC seeks to address the most significant challenges facing families through holistic services, including access to case management, assistance in securing benefits, crisis intervention services, mental health support, and referrals to additional resources. FRC's case management team of trained social workers serves as the main point of entry for families and includes Spanish- and Chinese-speaking social workers, ensuring all families have immediate access to culturally appropriate assistance and referrals to services.

Recommendation: Make the Settlement House Program funding stream permanent and double funding to $5 million in FY 2023-2024

OCFS administers the Settlement House Program through five-year contracts. Providers must apply through a competitive procurement process, and the contracts include consistent outcome reporting requirements throughout the contract period. OCFS's most recent procurement commenced new five-year contracts on September 1, 2021. In recent years, new organizations have committed to the settlement house model, and as a result the program expanded from 48 to 53 contracts. While this is a positive development, the procurement did not include a funding increase, and as a result many programs saw a reduction in their total funding levels in 2021, totalling $450,000 in cuts. For example, one settlement house lost 40 percent of their grant value, about $20,000 per year, which led to a reduction in staff time and service.

Despite this formalized program and the growing need to fund comprehensive, supportive services for low-income families still reeling from the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Settlement House Program has not seen a funding increase in over a decade.

Since the program's inception as a legislative initiative in the Assembly more than 25 years ago, the Legislature has supported it at various levels, reaching as high as $8.4 million at the height of the economic recession in FY 2009-2010 and as low as $2.45 million in FY 2022-2023 and the last several years. The Executive typically does not include funding in the Executive Budget; however, this long-standing program deserves stable and increased funding that is not affected by changing political landscapes, and we continue to urge OCFS and the Governor's office to include the SHP in future Executive Budgets.

This is the year to increase funding to the Settlement House Program. In the face of record-high inflation, persistent food and housing insecurity, and a sluggish economic recovery in New York State, funding for the Settlement House Program has not kept up with growing need in many of the low-income communities served by UNH's network of member settlement houses. As such, we urge the inclusion of $5 million in this year's budget, which would accomplish three things: 1) restore the $2.45 million that was secured in the FY 2022-2023 Enacted Budget; 2) restore the $450,000 in funding cuts that many individual settlement houses assumed in the 2021 procurement; and 3) address the growing reliance upon settlement house services with a $2.1 million increase.

We urge the Governor to make the Settlement House Program funding stream permanent, and for the Governor and the Legislature to fund the Settlement House Program at $5 million in the FY 2023-2024 Enacted Budget.

For more information on the Settlement House Program, contact Tara Klein at tklein@unhny.org and Irene Lew at ilew@unhny.org.

Appendix: Program Descriptions for Settlement House Program Recipients

Settlement House	Location	Program Description
Arab American Family Support Center	Brooklyn	The SHP funds a portion of the salary of the Program Coordinator in the Adult Education and Literacy Program. AAFSC supported a total of 867 participants in this program over the past year, providing comprehensive classes in Basic Literacy, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Civics, and Citizenship Prep. AAFSC has welcomed participants back to in-person learning while maintaining opportunities for virtual engagement to ensure accessibility. Over the last year, 88% of students in this program achieved incremental level gain, and 71% of post-tested students achieved literacy outcomes, as delineated by the Best Plus Test. Further, 100% of students who completed the USCIS Naturalization Interviews passed, for a total of 78 students passing their citizenship tests with AAFSC's help over the past year.
Baden Street Settlement of Rochester	Rochester	Not available - outside of UNH network
Booker T. Washington Community Center	Auburn	Not available - outside of UNH network
Broadway Housing Communities	Manhattan	The SHP supports Broadway Housing Communities (BHC)'s Youth Leadership Institute, which provides residents and neighborhood youth with employment opportunities, leadership development, and educational advocacy. Youth often live in BHC's five affordable and supportive housing properties in Washington Heights and West Harlem.
Bronx House	Bronx	The SHP supports several Bronx House programs, including College Access, Single Parent Network, and Foster Family Workshops. Funds cover the costs for youth to attend SAT prep programming, and provides transportation for college tours and fairs. It also supports Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) educational programs for families who attend early childhood and youth programs around healthy eating, and subsidizes CSA boxes for families. Funds also cover transportation for senior center program outings.
BronxWorks	Bronx	The SHP supports the college guidance and transition program, Center for Achieving Future Education (CAFÉ). The funding helps support a staff member who counsels high school juniors and seniors on the selection of colleges, college and financial aid applications, and working to help break down the barriers that prevent college success. During a 3-month period at the end of 2022, this program served 314 students who participated in weekly high school workshops, college workshops, in-person college tours, and college visits - including to SUNY schools, HBCUs, and private institutions. Workshops covered the initial process of applying to college,

		completing the FAFSA application, exploring Trade School as a post-secondary alternative, college essays, college resources, and self-care.
Broome County Urban League	Binghamton	Not available - outside of UNH network
Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers	Buffalo	Not available - outside of UNH network
CAMBA	Brooklyn	CAMBA uses SHP funds to operate the Leaders Connect Program at Flagstone Family Shelter, which serves 100 disconnected youth ages 16-24. Of these young adults, 31 are parents; some are part of three-generation families, and some are considered heads of household. These young adults have entered the shelter system for a variety of reasons–economic hardship, domestic violence, teen pregnancy, juvenile delinquency, health and mental health issues—and are in need of intensive support and guidance in order to overcome these barriers. The Leaders Connect Program meets their needs through the dedicated work of an Advocate Counselor who specializes in the needs and interests of this target population, and helps them develop comprehensive life plans that include both short-term and long-term achievable goals. In doing so, CAMBA engages approximately 30 young adults each year in positive, skill-building activities that help prepare them for independent living and future careers.
Charles Settlement House	Rochester	Not available - outside of UNH network
Chinese-American Planning Council	Manhattan	The SHP allows CPC to offer support and trainings to older adults to help them stay in the workforce so they can have a greater level of financial stability. This program also provides regular wellness checks to these older adults. In addition, the SHP has allowed CPC's Manhattan Multi-Social Services Program to screen, assess for eligibility, and assist 524 community members with their entitlement benefits, including in areas of housing, Medicaid, SNAP, Lifeline, and HEAP. This assistance has led families to achieve greater knowledge of entitlement benefits and has helped them improve their financial stability.
Claremont Neighborhood Center	Bronx	Not available - outside of UNH network
The Community Place of Greater Rochester	Rochester	Not available - outside of UNH network
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation	Brooklyn	Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation uses the SHP to provide college access counseling to first-generation, low-income students who attend the Thomas Jefferson HS campus. Students receive one on one college access support including the completion of their college essays, applications, FAFSA and other financial aid form completion. Students also participate in college trips, early awareness programming, and group

		workshops. Youth leaders are hired and trained to offer peer college access counseling.
East Side House	Bronx	The SHP supports East Side House's college access programming by supporting a staff member who works with youth on SAT prep as well as navigating college applications and campus visits.
Educational Alliance	Manhattan	The SHP funds salary expenses for a social worker in Educational Alliance (EA)'s Family Resource Center (FRC). Since its launch in December 2020, the FRC has been the first point of introduction to EA and its services for many clients. The FRC seeks to address the most significant challenges facing families through holistic services that meet needs in multiple areas of their lives, including access to case management, assistance in securing benefits, crisis intervention services, mental health support, and referrals to additional resources. The FRC approach stems from a strengths-based practice that recognizes families as the best advocates for themselves and empowers them to realize their goals. EA's case management team of trained social workers serve as the main point of entry for families and includes Spanish- and Chinese-speaking social workers, ensuring all families have immediate access to assistance.
Goddard Riverside Community Center	Manhattan	The SHP supports the Star Learning Center, a youth tutoring program. Star Learning Center is Goddard Riverside's academic tutoring program for underserved students in 2nd through 12th grade. The Center serves over 120 students, providing one-on-one tutoring and educational advocacy to help build the academic skills and confidence needed to prepare for college. Each student is carefully matched with a dedicated volunteer tutor who supports the student's academic and personal growth.
Grand Street Settlement	Manhattan	The SHP supports the Benefits Assistance program, which connects over 1,000 families every year to benefits and entitlements for which they qualify, including health, housing, nutrition, tax, and legal resources. With this investment, Grand St. Settlement is able to return over $2 million in acquired benefits and services to the community. In 2022, a total of 1,305 households were connected to benefits and services in the following neighborhoods: Lower East Side, Bushwick, Williamsburg, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Clinton Hill, East New York, Brownsville, and Sunset Park.
Greenwich House	Manhattan	The SHP supports a portion of the salary for a Spanish-speaking therapist who provides intake assessments and treatment for children and families, with a focus and expertise in trauma-informed care and family therapy. Greenwich House operates this program in partnership with the NYC Family Justice Center in Queens.

Hartley House	Manhattan	The SHP supports Hartley House's afterschool program for children ages 5-12 in Hell's Kitchen. This is particularly important because there is no city-funded free after school directly in the neighborhood. The program offers a safe and welcoming environment for 43 neighborhood children to develop their academic, creative, and leadership skills. Afterschool participants receive a nutritious snack and enjoy a healthy balance of play, academic learning, and creative projects. Through a project-based Learning Community design taught by a dedicated staff of instructors, students receive high-quality out-of-school time programming that ensures equal access to educational, artistic and enrichment programs.
Henry Street Settlement	Manhattan	With the support of the SHP, Henry Street Settlement provides athletics programming for low-income and at-risk youth at six sites across the Lower East Side. Henry Street uses sports as a social intervention for high-need youth to build community with mentors and peers and develop social-emotional skills such as discipline, cooperation, leadership, and teamwork. The athletics programming reached 670 young people through three in-house basketball leagues and weekly open gym hours in 2021. Additionally, the athletics programming serves as an entry point for additional mental health and social services, as participants in need of greater support are referred to an on-site social worker who provides counseling, mediation, crisis intervention, and referrals to Henry Street's suite of wraparound social services. Over the past fiscal year, 44 youth athletes were connected to a social worker and received counseling and mental health services.
Hudson Guild	Manhattan	The SHP helps underwrite the Teen Service Program at Hudson Guild by providing essential funding for staff. The program offers work, education and recreation/path to adulthood programming for youth 16-24. The program provides in-school college access planning for high school students; paid, supervised internships; and activities such as podcasting, cooking classes and sports to keep young people engaged and developing life plans. Teens have had a difficult time during/post-pandemic, with very few options for activities leading to frayed social connections. Rebuilding programming and social fabric is a major priority for teens at Hudson Guild.
Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement	Queens	The SHP funds the salary of a bilingual case worker to support programs at Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement. This position is not covered by any other government contracts and allows Riis to provide more comprehensive services to clients.
Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island	Brooklyn	Not available - outside of UNH network
Kingsbridge Heights Community Center	Bronx	The SHP supports youth programming at Kingsbridge Heights Community Center (KHCC). First, it supports the KHCC Teen Center which serves over 300 Bronx youth ages 12-21 annually. The program provides nightly meals

		and is open until 9 pm to ensure safety and consistency for young people who may lack this structure at home. In addition, the program provides educational support, leadership development, service opportunities, job training and internships, and skills-building through technology, arts, wellness initiatives, and recreation. Second, SHP funds support KHCC's College Directions program. This program offers guidance for youth enrolling and staying in college through individual college counseling, coaching, and guidance on their transition to college. While just 20% of residents aged 25 years and over have earned a bachelor's degree or higher in KHCC's service area, 90% of participants are accepted into college. Finally, KHCC's Youth Council allows youth a voice and choice over program decisions about rules, activities and events. The program assists youth in developing skills in active listening, public speaking, and mentoring with same-age and younger peers who are typically developing or have special needs.
Martin Luther King Multi-Purpose Center	Spring Valley, Rockland County	The Martin Lurther King (MLK) Multi-Purpose Center used SHP funds to hire a new bilingual educator/coordinator. The coordinator's role is to design academic content to be incorporated into center activities with a focus on supporting existing programs including afterschool, summer programming, and youth employment.
Mosholu Montefiore Community Center	Bronx	The SHP supports MMCC afterschool services, which emphasize developmental, social emotional and behavioral disabilities, located in the Norwood section of the Bronx at PS 94 (Kings College School). MMCC currently serves 40 children. This vulnerable population includes children in foster care, children with incarcerated family members, and children who are far behind academically. Demand has risen for these services as parents have been requesting assistance catching their children up from learning loss as a result of the pandemic. MMCC's model includes 3:1 servicing (student to staff member), with a once-a-week session that focuses on communication, anger management and academic needs.
New Settlement	Bronx	The SHP supports New Settlement's college success program, whose goal is to position increasing numbers of students to matriculate to college and persist through college graduation. It offers a coordinated, multi-year program series and one-to-one educational counseling through which students and their parents can explore up-to-date information and get practical support for pursuing post-secondary educational options leading to employment in a chosen career.
Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation	Manhattan	At NMIC, the SHP supports community outreach, including customized and compelling flyers and digital outreach efforts. The SHP also supports staff in NMIC's linguistically-appropriate case management program to connect clients with services that help them stay engaged, such as referrals for housing, legal services, childcare, and workforce opportunities. Additionally, funds help support positions that typical government contracts do not fully support, such as accountants and staff training leaders. In 2021, NMIC

		served 119 community residents in adult education and career training programs despite continuing to deal with the ongoing impact of the pandemic. Through these efforts, NMIC assisted three community residents to obtain their GED, 58 residents received their security guard credentials, 27 residents improved their English abilities, and 13 young adults received a vocational credential.
Ocean Bay Community Development Corp.	Queens	The SHP provides financial support for a variety of programs at Ocean Bay Community Development Corp (OBCDC)., including: workforce development services, food access, supportive housing resources, community engagement including a new older adult center and family enrichment center, and transportation accessibility. The SHP has helped change the lives of many families at OBCDC, for example through assistance in paying rental arrears, referrals to financial counseling, assistance purchasing furniture, and support for youth to access job readiness skills and education options.
Project Hospitality	Staten Island	The SHP supports a staff member to coordinate Project Hospitality's benefits outreach program so that clients can be screened for and enrolled in any eligible benefits. It also allows Project Hospitality to create public-facing outreach materials on benefits to be distributed at their food pantry.
Queens Community House	Queens	The SHP funds part of the salary of a Family Support Coordinator (FSC) at Queens Community House (QCH). When the pandemic first hit, QCH established an agency-wide system of household assessments and support services, creating three FSC positions to provide comprehensive case management for households facing multiple issues or requiring extended support. The FSCs receive referrals from staff and from community partners, do in-depth assessments, screen families for benefits (SNAP, Medicaid, WIC, etc.), make internal referrals (housing, immigration legal assistance, mental health, workforce services), offer counseling, and help families learn how to advocate for themselves (e.g., for special needs schooling). They also oversee QCH's emergency cash grants, which help prevent utilities from being shut off, provide infant needs (diapers, formula), or offer food assistance until SNAP benefits are approved. In recent months, the FSC caseloads have increased as many QCH school programs are enrolling recent migrant families from the southern border who are facing multiple challenges.
Red Hook Initiative	Brooklyn	The SHP supports RHI's emergency relief assistance for Red Hook families, coupled with case management support provided in English, Spanish, and Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese).
Riverdale Neighborhood House	Bronx	The SHP supports a staff member at RNH who assists low-income, at-risk youth to avoid risky behavior and develop a path for the future through workshops, college guidance, and work experience.
SCAN-Harbor	Manhattan	SHP funds help to support SCAN-Harbor's 'Reach for The Stars' Upward Bound program, designed to afford college bound support to 'challenged' inner-city high school students enrolled in SCAN-Harbor's East Harlem,

		Harlem, and South Bronx based community and public high school sites. SHP funding also helps to support an FTE position in this program.
School Settlement Association	Brooklyn	The SHP supports Senior Services in Williamsburg, where School Settlement is now offering a range of services for older adults, including wellness check-ins, activities, and lunch at the reopened Swinging Sixties Senior Center; and a newly established Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC) at Lindsay Park Housing Cooperative.
Shorefront YM-YWHA of Brighton-Manhattan Beach	Brooklyn	Shorefront Y uses SHP funding to provide case management, information and assistance, public benefit entitlement screening and enrollment for members of the community including the increasing number of newly arrived Ukrainians following the Russian invasion in February 2022. The Shorefront Y has workers fluent in Russian, Ukrainian, Uzbek, Georgian, Kazakh, and other languages to serve the local population. Overall, 77 people received the much-needed culturally and linguistically appropriate services last year thanks to SHP funds. The program provides financial and food assistance, benefits enrollment and unemployment insurance assistance, support with applying for affordable housing, including NYCHA applications, information about child care payment options, and help with acquiring child care assistance from NYC programs and other services. Many clients are referred to the New York Legal Assistance Group for free legal aid consultations, including newly arrived Ukrainians.
Southeast Bronx Neighborhood Centers	Bronx	In serving high-poverty Bronx neighborhoods like Morrisania and Claremont, SEBNC primarily uses the SHP grant for two reasons. First, thanks to the SHP, SEBNC can help ensure that their indoor gym is open for free health and recreation services and can remain a safe-haven for the community. The grant pays the part-time staff that supervise the fitness center. Second, SEBNC uses the SHP to support its Minds Unlimited afterschool fee-for-service program, by compensating for those parents behind on their payments and paying the part-time program director. The SHP funds also help to purchase program supplies and gym supplies. Between the gym and the afterschool program, SEBNC serves more than 1500 community residents annually.
Southwest Area Neighborhood Association (SWAN)	Rochester	The funds received from the SHP are used to support the services and programs that SWAN provides Southwest Rochester residents, an area with the city's highest rate of poverty, poor housing stock, and environmental hazards. These residents have the greatest needs, based on rates of poverty, unemployment, public assistance, teenage pregnancy and infant mortality. The funds also support SWAN's senior nutrition program by expanding work to address technology disparities and pandemic relief for older adults. SHP funds also provide support for the Family Emergency Case Work Program, which reaches out to community members and responds to the Rochester State of Emergency over gun violence by creating marketing products to

		connect community groups. Finally, the funds support SWAN's therapy program for youth living through Covid.
Spanish Action League of Onondaga County	Syracuse	Not available - outside of UNH network
St. Nicks Alliance	Brooklyn	St. Nicks Alliance uses SHP funds to support Attendance Improvement/Drop Out Prevention (AIDP) services at the Grand Street Campus, home to three co-located Title One high schools. An AIDP Counselor provides one-on-one and small group counseling to 25-30 chronically absent students, which helps address barriers to school engagement. Attendance consistently improves by 20 or more points, to an average of 82%.
Stanley M Isaacs Neighborhood Center	Manhattan	The SHP creates sustainable career opportunities for young adults and bolsters critical afterschool services for vulnerable children. The Isaacs Center operates training programs for youth between the ages of 16-24 in the Technology, Healthcare and Culinary/Hospitality sectors. Isaacs Center training programs prepare participants for success by combining lectures with hands-on experience in professional settings.
Sunnyside Community Services	Queens	SHP funds support two youth programs at Sunnyside Community Services in Woodside and Elmhurst Queens. At the Cornerstone Community Center at the Woodside Houses, funds are used to enhance programming for 30 middle- and high-school students that supports academic success while also aligning with youth violence prevention principles. Afterschool and weekend programming includes workshops, positive physical recreational activities and project-based leadership and civic engagement activities. SHP funds also support afterschool programming for 20 young people at the SONYC Boulevard site, which serves youth and families who are facing the stresses of homelessness. Participants have the opportunity to gain knowledge, skills, and experience in areas of academic enrichment, leadership, and civic engagement. Recently there has been a burgeoning enrollment of participants from families that are seeking asylum. SHP funds are allocated to personnel, including partial support of program directors at the Cornerstone and the SONYC program, as well as fully funding two part-time instructors.
Syracuse Model Neighborhood Facility	Syracuse	Not available - outside of UNH network
Syracuse Northeast Community Center	Syracuse	The SHP provides support for the Syracuse Northeast Community Center's Basic Needs Pantry's inventory and staffing. There has been a growing need for pantry support, especially among Black and Brown community residents, as well as the growing immigrant and refugee population.
The Neighborhood Center	Utica	Not available - outside of UNH network
Trinity Alliance of the Capitol Region	Albany	At Trinity Alliance, the SHP supports a financial assistance program that focuses on housing resources, rental and utility arrears, and recruiting

		individuals for the State's ERAP program. Trinity's Housing Resource Navigator has assisted over 150 unique households with obtaining or maintaining safe housing. This program leverages $25,000 in supplemental funding to provide financial assistance for those individuals who may be behind on rent or at risk of eviction. Trinity Alliance aims to provide community members with the tools to pay their bills moving forward, despite any financial emergencies that may arise.
Union Settlement	Manhattan	With SHP funds, Union Settlement is expanding its therapeutic modalities for groups. In the last year, Union Settlement has run several successful groups including Stress Management, Chronic Pain, Grief, LGBTQ for teens, and a Storytelling group. The Storytelling group was very successful. Participants performed their stories at NYU's Creative Art Therapy program. Union Settlement has serviced 83 group participants in the last year, and hopes to continue expanding this model as well as encourage a "step down" model for the clinic community. The goal of this model is to create a supportive community for clients within their own neighborhoods.
United Community Centers	Brooklyn	The SHP supports a peer educators sexual health program at United Community Centers. Forty young people who live in East New York, between the ages of 15 to 20 years old, are trained to speak with their peers about the importance of sexual health and safe sex. The funds support pay stipends to those youth peer educators in the program.
University Settlement Society of New York	Manhattan	University Settlement uses SHP funding for Project Home. This initiative supports low-income New Yorkers by giving them access to information about social services in their area. These services include providing information about eviction prevention, housing counseling, tenant/homeowner rights, assisting with lease or repairs issues, and helping with affordable housing applications. Project Home supports up to 700 New York City residents a year in Brooklyn & Lower Manhattan.
Westcott Community Center	Syracuse	SHP funding allows Westcott Community Center to serve individuals and families living on the east side of the city, meet their basic needs, and move them toward a path to self-sufficiency. The basic needs pantry is often the first interaction Westcott has with neighbors. The intake process enables program staff to not only meet emergent needs of food and essentials, but it also helps to better understand what other programs and services will best support everyone's needs, whether those services are offered by Westcott or another provider.

Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation (WHEDco)	Bronx	SHP funding has enabled WHEDco to provide much-needed mental health supports to middle school students and their families in its School Partnership Program. With these funds, WHEDco has been able to invest in the fringe benefits and salaries of two social workers who serve students and families participating in afterschool programs in three locations (P.S. M.S. 218, Highbridge Green Middle School, and the South Bronx Early College Academy) in the South Bronx. In the past year, the range of support services at these sites has enhanced the overall stability and well-being of approximately 80 students and 80 parents. Over the school year, social workers help students and their families deal with grief, trauma, and mental health challenges as they arise, and ensure that youth stay engaged with teachers, mentors, and peers. Social workers have also developed life skills groups using a social-emotional lens to focus on mental health, identity, interpersonal relationships, and more, as well as groups geared toward anger management, stress management, and social skills.

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UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES

United Neighborhood Houses (UNH) is a policy and social change organization representing 46 neighborhood settlement houses, including 40 in New York City, that reach over 765,000 New Yorkers from all walks of life. A progressive leader for more than 100 years, UNH is stewarding a new era for New York's settlement house movement. We mobilize our members and their communities to advocate for good public policies and promote strong organizations and practices that keep neighborhoods resilient and thriving for all New Yorkers.

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