

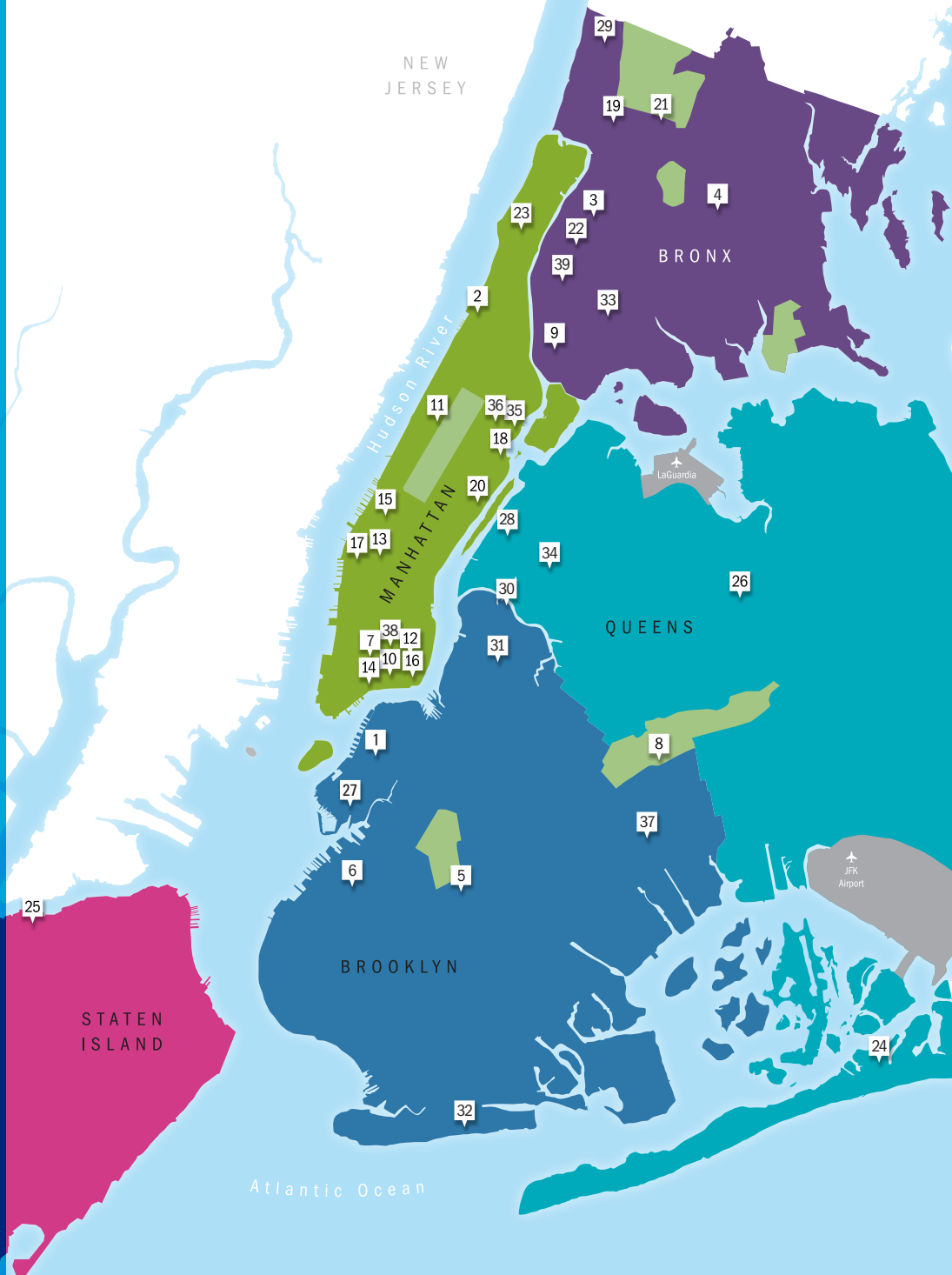
United Neighborhood Houses

# RAISING THE VOICES OF NEW YORKERS

2017 Annual Report

# UnH Member Agencies

1. Arab-American Family Support Center
2. Broadway Housing Communities
3. BronxWorks
4. Bronx House
5. CAMBA
6. Center for Family Life in Sunset Park
7. Chinese-American Planning Council
8. Cypress Hills Local Development Corp.
9. East Side House Settlement
10. Educational Alliance
11. Goddard Riverside Community Center
12. Grand St. Settlement
13. Greenwich House
14. Hamilton-Madison House
15. Hartley House
16. Henry Street Settlement
17. Hudson Guild
18. Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center
19. Kingsbridge Heights Community Center
20. Lenox Hill Neighborhood House
21. Mosholu Montefiore Community Center
22. New Settlement Apartments
23. Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp.
24. Ocean Bay Community Development Corp.
25. Project Hospitality
26. Queens Community House
27. Red Hook Initiative
28. Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement
29. Riverdale Neighborhood House
30. St. Nicks Alliance
31. School Settlement Association
32. Shorefront YM-YWHA of Brighton-Manhattan Beach
33. Southeast Bronx Neighborhood Centers
34. Sunnyside Community Services
35. SCAN New York
36. Union Settlement
37. United Community Centers
38. University Settlement Society
39. Women's Housing & Economic Development Corp. (WHEDco)



\*Only main sites shown



## FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

For nearly 100 years, UNH has been mobilizing settlement houses and the communities they serve to advocate for policies, funding, and practices to help create stronger, more vibrant neighborhoods for all New Yorkers. Even in our resilient and thriving city, this year has been particularly challenging for this work, both for us and our members. However, these challenges also catalyzed a renewed desire from our members and their communities to be heard, to be more civically engaged, and to drive positive change in their neighborhoods.

UNH has always known that every voice matters in advocacy and to create change, so this year we deepened our work to build the capacity of settlement houses for civic engagement. We are also expanding our work to train neighborhood residents to organize around their own community change initiatives.

In this annual report, we describe some of the ways we help elevate the voices of our settlement house members and their communities, as well as share some of their voices.

We are so proud of UNH's work over this past year, and want to thank you for your support in helping us achieve all that we do every year. With your partnership, we will continue raising the voices of underrepresented New Yorkers and the settlement houses that make New York City neighborhoods strong.

M. Bryna Sanger,  
UNH Board President

Susan Stamler,  
UNH Executive Director



RAISING THE  
VOICE OF  
SETTLEMENT  
HOUSES  
AND THEIR  
COMMUNITIES  
THROUGH  
ADVOCACY





**T**he advocacy efforts of UNH include meetings with State and City lawmakers, testifying at budget hearings, leading and joining issue campaigns, organizing news conferences and rallies, and coordinating the voice and experience of settlement houses and their communities to inform policymakers and other civic leaders. Budget victories in 2017 include:

- **RESTORED AND EXPANDED FUNDING** for after school;
- **INCREASED CITY AND STATE FUNDING** for the Summer Youth Employment program;
- **INCREASED FUNDING** for mental health services for older people and for young children impacted by trauma;
- **THE REINSTATEMENT OF FUNDING** for the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Project, which provides important capital improvement funding for the nonprofit sector.

UNH helped design and conduct successful advocacy that resulted in the restoration of \$12 million to the City's budget for adult literacy programs at a time when a key to success for immigrants and their families is learning English, UNH led rallies with participants at City Hall in Manhattan and at every Borough Hall in New York City. This gave the people who depend on these programs the chance to let the Mayor and City Council Members know how important these programs are to those who use them.



UNH is recognized as an advocate for settlement houses and their programs, and as a policy advisor for City and State officials. In 2017, UNH was quoted and mentioned in more than four dozen articles on topics ranging from the expansion of the Summer Youth Employment Program to saving funding for Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities that enable older adults to age safely in place. UNH staff also published op-eds in various media outlets. These were part of successful advocacy campaigns. This includes:

► ARTICLES OPPOSING  
A SHIFT IN STATE FUNDING

that threatened to shutter 65 senior centers and would have resulted in the loss of services for 6,000 older people

► OPINION PIECES ON THE IMPORTANCE OF  
FUNDING FREE ADULT LITERACY CLASSES

that are key to the success of immigrants and their families

► OP-EDS ADVOCATING FOR INCREASED  
INVESTMENTS IN QUALITY CHILD CARE

to support low-income working families

“At a time when so many immigrants are feeling vulnerable due to xenophobic rhetoric, policy, and hate crimes, now is not the time to ostracize their language skills. Rather, we should ensure that every New Yorker who wants to learn to read, write and speak English, can.”

KEVIN DOUGLAS

UNH Co-Director of Policy  
& Advocacy, Daily News

# RAISING THE VOICE OF UNH AND SETTLEMENT HOUSES FOR ALL NEW YORKERS TO HEAR





“Community-based senior centers...are incredibly effective at helping older adults live healthy and vibrant lives. Those who attend and rely on senior centers are often those with the lowest incomes, the poorest health, the highest social isolation, and are most in need of food, resources, and assistance.”

**SUSAN STAMLER**

UNH Executive Director,  
The Bronx Chronicle and Manhattan Times

“By investing in child care, New York State is investing in its working families, creating jobs in early childhood education and supporting its communities... We must support our working families, educate and train a child care workforce, and increase affordable quality child caring programs throughout our state.”

**GREGORY BRENDER**

UNH Co-Director of Policy & Advocacy,  
PowHer New York





# ELEVATING NEIGHBORHOOD VOICES THROUGH INNOVATIVE PRACTICES

“The opportunity has  
enhanced my life, not only  
for me but for all the people  
who see what we are doing.”

*Team Member, Sunnyside Community Services  
Center for Active Older Adults*







“It makes me very proud to be part of this team. It gave me the opportunity to share how much talent we have and how much we can give back to our community. We’re all more aware of ourselves and our community.”

*Team Member, Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Senior Center*



“We are called upon again to be a transformational generation. We are called upon to redefine what it means to be a senior. We are an active force in influencing our own position.”

*Team Member, Educational Alliance’s Weinberg Center for Balanced Living*



Changing the experience of aging in New York City, UNH is creating opportunities for older people to remain actively engaged in the welfare of their communities. Building on our role and the evidence collected in two national projects, UNH has proven in New York City that older adults can create positive change in their neighborhoods. We do this by training settlement house staff to recruit and support teams of older adults who identify a community issue and the plan for addressing it. These self-directed teams: build gardens and bring healthy food into low-income, food desert neighborhoods; document local affordable housing for older people and the resources for accessing it; and mentor the young people in their communities to prepare them to enter the workforce, among other projects. These projects benefit communities and settlement houses, and project participants feel increased self-worth and fulfillment, feel less isolated, and report improved physical and mental health.

## EXPANDING THE VOICE OF SETTLEMENT HOUSES WITH NEW MEMBERS

UNH welcomed two new members to our network: Bronx House in the Pelham Parkway/Morris Park neighborhood and Ocean Bay Community Development Corporation in Far Rockaway. These new members now benefit from UNH’s capacity building support, and have joined their voices with other UNH members in advocating for issues important to their communities. Ocean Bay’s Executive Director Pat Simon echoes the sentiments of all of our members: “Belonging to UNH is so important. The learning community I joined is everything plus what I thought it would be. There is no question I can ask that won’t get answered by a UNH staff member or a settlement house colleague.”

“Advocacy is imperative for our organization and can help to fix a lot of the problems we face in the short and long term.”

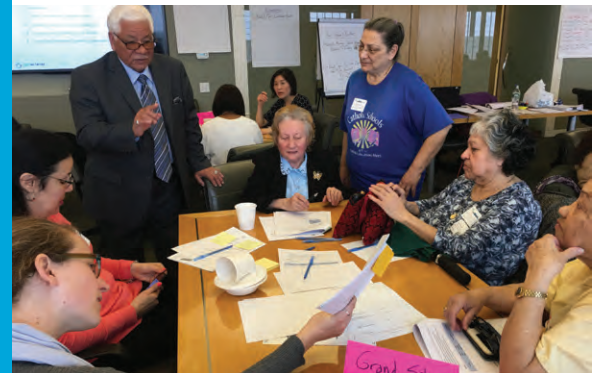
*A 2017 Advocacy Institute training program graduate.*

# ENRICHING THE SETTLEMENT HOUSE VOICE THROUGH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

“M is constantly and effectively finding new strategies to problem solve with her staff. She is more confident in her ability to lead her programs.”

*A settlement house supervisor about her staff member who completed the 2017 Emerging Leaders program*

Professional development and peer learning opportunities for staff at all levels are provided by UNH, building the skills of settlement house workers across the City, as well as helping to develop the nonprofit leaders of tomorrow. Through UNH-led peer learning groups settlement house staff showcase and share expertise, learn about new and best practices, and spark thinking, action, collaboration, and innovation. Last year, UNH facilitated nearly 150 trainings, workshops, and peer learning meetings for nearly 1,600 settlement house staff. Settlement house leaders applaud the positive impact that these trainings have on their staff.



“I loved being able to meet and speak with so many other [staff] at different settlement houses and hear about the work they do. It’s a great thing for future collaborations and referring clients that need other services.”

*Settlement House Day 2017 participant*





# RAISING THE VOICE OF NEW YORKERS THROUGH VOTING

**V**oting is one of the most accessible ways for communities to come together and stand up for what they believe in. To ensure that more and more New Yorkers are standing up for their beliefs, UNH trains settlement house staff to encourage New Yorkers to be involved in civic life including nonpartisan voter registration and mobilization. In 2017, UNH partnered

with Community Votes to train staff from seven settlement houses to register people to vote and to implement Get Out the Vote campaigns that targeted historically low-turnout populations. These efforts led to the collection of pledges to vote from 748 registered voters, the registration of 390 new voters, and more than 6,600 registered voters contacted to remind them to vote on Election Day.

“I found satisfaction in helping my neighbors work toward getting things done, knowing we have a voice and we can do it ourselves.”

**GWENDOLYN WILSON** *(Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement), 2017 UNH Civic Advocacy Award winner, responsible for registering 250 new voters and educating a whole community on the value of their vote and their voice.*



# UNH NETWORK BY THE NUMBERS



**\$935M**  
AGGREGATE  
BUDGET



**39**  
MEMBERS



**750,000+**  
NEW YORKERS  
SERVED



**670**  
PROGRAM SITES

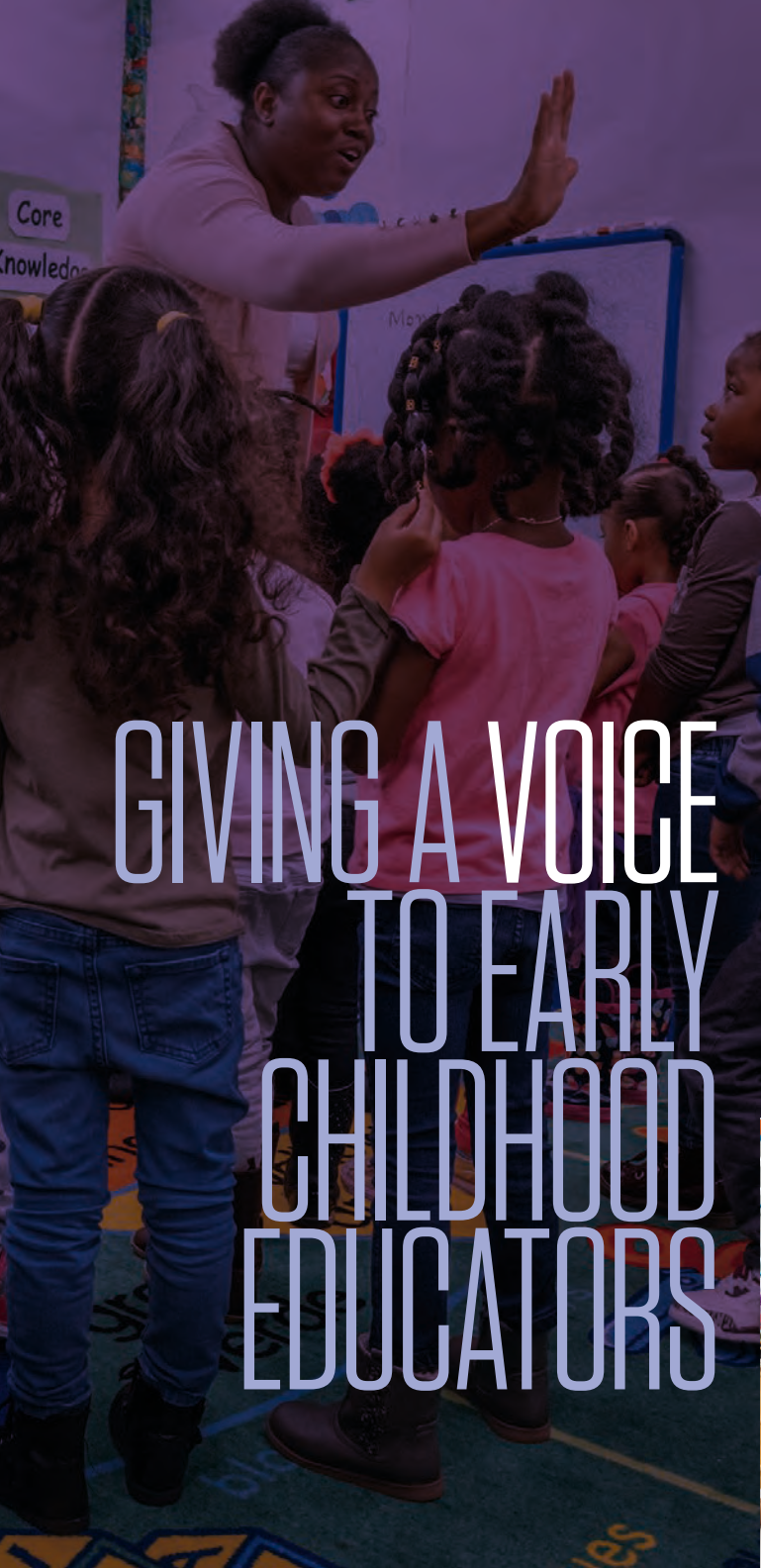


**13,000**  
VOLUNTEERS



**13,770**  
STAFF



A woman teacher with dark hair, wearing a light-colored long-sleeved shirt, is standing and gesturing with her right hand towards a group of young children. The children are mostly Black and are looking towards the teacher. They are in a classroom setting with educational posters on the wall, including one that says 'Core Knowledge'. The text 'GIVING A VOICE TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS' is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters.

# GIVING A VOICE TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS

In New York City, early childhood educators in community-based early learning programs earn significantly less than similarly qualified teachers in Department of Education schools. For example, a certified teacher with a BA and 8 years of experience would earn \$74,207 in a DOE program, but the same teacher in a community-based program would earn \$44,065. This is despite the fact that teachers in community-based programs work longer days and during the summer, and on average achieve better results than public schools.

This disparity is not only unfair, it destabilizes NYC's early childhood education system as teachers in community-based programs leave for better paying jobs in public schools. This is happening at a time when the City seeks to expand early learning programming across the City – an aspiration that cannot be achieved without the capacity and expertise that community-based organizations offer.

UNH has been working to raise public awareness of this issue. Last year, we organized teachers and parents to rally in front of City Hall, held press conferences and published op-eds, and spent countless hours educating elected officials to advocate for equal pay across the City's early learning system. Advocacy efforts have led to some salary increases and other investments in City contracts, but nowhere near achieving equality across the system, so the fight for the educators of our City's youngest continues.



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# 2017 FINANCIALS

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES, DECEMBER 31, 2017

(Selected Financial Data)

### SUPPORT, REVENUE AND GAINS

Foundation Grants and Other Contributions	\$ 2,538,665
Investment Income	\$ 134,834
Membership Dues	\$ 370,750
Other Income	\$ 9,245
<b>Total Support, Revenue and Gains</b>	<b>\$ 3,053,494</b>

### EXPENSES

Program Services:	
Member Agency Support	\$ 232,539
Policy and Public Education	\$ 756,132
Member Services	\$ 1,310,563
Total Program Services	\$ 2,299,234
Management and General	\$ 387,655
Fundraising	\$ 593,308
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 3,280,197</b>

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS \$ (226,703)**

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(Selected Financial Data)

### ASSETS

Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments	\$ 9,504,407
Other Assets	\$ 907,625
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 10,412,032</b>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

General Liabilities	\$ 310,027
Net Assets:	
Unrestricted	\$ 9,458,948
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 543,057
Permanently Restricted	\$ 100,000
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 10,102,005</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 10,412,032</b>



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ER

Summer  
prepares our  
the skills and  
the competencies  
to tackle changes  
world.

Camp  
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than the Power  
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