The past 18 months at United Neighborhood Houses can be characterized by stability and agility in the face of constant change. We took the lead on a number of local coalitions, restructured and revitalized our professional development programs, and called thousands of settlement house staff to action. Our work made it possible for the New Yorkers who live, work, and volunteer in settlement house communities to find strength and power in numbers.

We are proud of the role we play in elevating the voice of our members and the diverse communities they serve, and we are grateful to you, our supporters, for helping us fulfill our potential.

Thank you for standing with us,

M. Bryna Sanger, UNH Board President  
Susan Stamler, UNH Executive Director
Over the past 103 years, UNH and our settlement house members have fought for progressive change and social justice. Most recently, we secured investments for programs like Adult Education, Summer Youth Employment, Older Adult Programs, and more.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Left: An ESOL student joins classmates in describing how his Adult Literacy class helps improve his life. Below, left to right: Human services workers spell out why the City must continue to invest in the critical workforce. • A settlement house Outreach Worker joins Our City, Our Vote advocates at City Hall. • A woman spins humor into her call for greater investments to older adult programs.
Our network of 45 New York settlement houses collectively reaches 765,000 New Yorkers in all five New York City boroughs, Syracuse, Albany, and now, Rochester. In 2021, we welcomed SWAN Inc. at Montgomery Neighborhood Center, one of the region’s first settlement houses. SWAN’s former Executive Director, Tiffany Owens, said on joining our network:

“Affiliation with partners in purpose is an invaluable resource for organizations like ours, whose goal is to better the lives of the community we serve. We look forward to rolling up our sleeves and working in concert with UNH in advocating for conditions that inspire, include, and illuminate hope!”

Settlement houses play a key role in New York’s infrastructure. They are employers, service providers, and community builders, and have a collective budget of $1 billion.
Settlement houses take a holistic approach to meeting their neighbors’ needs, fostering resiliency, and addressing the barriers that impede individual, family, and community stability.

In 2021, settlement houses remained on the front lines helping their communities navigate the twists and turns of the pandemic. They addressed food insecurity, housing instability, mental health, and education, while simultaneously facing mounting budget and staffing challenges. This year, they are successfully adapting their programs to reflect the long-term realities and lessons learned from COVID-19.

Settlement houses work with their communities to develop their strengths, not just to provide services. They engage their neighbors in the planning and design of programs, they provide assistance and space to individuals and groups in efforts to solve community problems, and encourage community members to participate in civic life. They also hold forums on local concerns, register voters, and provide information about citywide issues.
Our advocacy resulted in significant budget and policy changes on the City and State level.

UNH and our settlement house members joined Human Services Council's #JustPay campaign to demand fair wages for human services workers.
We advanced our network’s priorities by employing a mix of targeted strategies. In 2021-22, we united settlement houses and joined fellow advocates to call for change in the following areas: voting rights for NYC’s green card holders and legal residents; fair wages for human services workers, including child care and home care workers; accessible and affordable child care; securing flexible funding for settlement houses; tenant protections and creating affordable neighborhoods; and greater investments for youth programs, older adults services, public housing, community schools, adult literacy education, mental health initiatives, gun violence prevention, and parole justice.
Our advocacy influenced change, raised awareness around settlement houses, and impacted local communities.

(1.) Our Campaign for Universal Summer Jobs celebrated a major victory when Mayor Adams included $236 million in baselined funding in his budget, which resulted in a record 90,000 young adults participating in the Summer Youth Employment Program. (2.) In 2021, we ramped up our longtime fight to restore municipal voting rights to nearly one million NYC green card holders and legal residents. In 2022, the bill successfully passed into law, but it was challenged and overturned by opponents. Today, we are keeping the fight alive by supporting the City’s action to appeal the Richmond County Supreme Court’s decision. (3.) After listening to our members’ concerns about the City’s Summer Rising program, we led a successful campaign that resulted in a $101 million increase in funding, covering an expansion to 110,000 K-8 slots, and an additional $850,000 for program ramp-up costs. (4-5.) With the New York City Coalition for Adult Literacy, we secured $13.5 million in baselined funds for Adult Literacy Education and an additional $6.7 million for upgrades to program space, design, and technology. (6.) When decision-makers left senior centers out of their re-opening plans in 2021, we worked with allies across the state to lift the voices of hundreds of older adults on social media using #OpenOurSeniorCenters. Centers re-opened soon after.
(7.) We advocated for a $19.2 million investment for child care vouchers for low-income and immigrant families and a commitment from the City for pay parity for special education pre-K teachers and child care providers. (8.) We called for greater investment in the Home Delivered Meals Program, which resulted in an additional $9.41 million in funding for FY23. (9.) With the Coalition for Community School Excellence, we secured $9 million for the Community Schools Initiative and an additional $5 million to add ten community schools, for a total of 137. (10.) We helped settlement house staff voice their community’s needs for greater investments in mental health supports for older adults. Our advocacy resulted in $3.2 million across 40 sites. (11.) As gun violence became a major focus in New York and across the country, we expressed our grief and outrage by joining advocates at City Hall and backing a package of state-wide gun violence prevention bills, including microstamping which helps identify the source of a firearm when a bullet cartridge is found at the crime scene. These bills were signed into law in June 2022. (12.) We worked to secure flexible funding streams for our members by bringing settlement house leaders and State legislators together for our annual Lobby Day meetings—$2.45 million in State Settlement House Program funding was restored. (13.) We also advocated to restore the Indirect Cost Rate Initiative which reimburses nonprofits at higher rates that more accurately reflect and cover the expenses they incur when contracting with the City, including critical operations and support staff, such as those in IT and finance.
MEMBER SERVICES

We created meaningful opportunities for settlement house staff and their community members.

Thirty staff from 22 settlement houses successfully completed our new leadership development and networking program, Leading for Impact.
We customized trainings and professional development sessions focused on skill building and management, increased wellness opportunities for frontline staff, and created space for expanded learning opportunities. We raised more than $2.6 million, which we awarded back to our members to provide emergency cash assistance for community members, operate emergency food programs, launch intergenerational programming, and to address pressing community or organizational needs.

**SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS**

We fostered unity, community, and stability throughout our network.
Opportunities & Growth

We grew our professional development programs, recognized exceptional leadership, and increased our peer learning.

(1.) Settlement house leaders shared words of wisdom with our 2022 Leading for Impact cohort. 2.) Thirty staff from 20 settlement houses participated in Supervisory Essentials for Internally Promoted New Managers, a customized, virtual, three-part training for staff recently promoted from within their settlement house. (3.) We brought in a wellness coach, Tiana Brawley, to offer staff a three-part Reclaiming Wellness Series. Nearly 100 people engaged in an active conversation about wellness sustainability and prioritizing balance. (4.) Our Emily Menlo Marks Scholarship Program provided 80 scholarships of $500 each to settlement house staff who have demonstrated leadership and commitment in their roles and are continuing their education. (5.) We partnered with New York Power Authority to award two $10,000 scholarship awards to NYC high school seniors of color in our network, like Min Aung Zaw from Chinese-American Planning Council, interested in pursuing a college degree relevant to the energy field. (6.) Eleven graduating high school seniors within our network received the Paramount College Scholarship Award, a one-time award of $1,500 to go toward financial expenses related to beginning their college journeys in the fall.
(7.) We successfully launched **S.H.A.R.E. (Settlement Houses Advancing Racial Equity)** and are using insights from this group to inform other peer learning and professional development. (8.) We created a new peer group, **Settlement House Youth Worker Peer Group**, to bring staff together to better understand and respond to issues within the field of youth development. (9.) We offered **support groups for direct practice youth program staff**. We helped frontline youth services staff cope with personal and pandemic-related stressors. (10.) During the initial roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine, we promoted **public health education** by partnering with NYC’s DOHMH to offer multi-lingual vaccine information sessions to our members. (11.) We offered **vaccine-related discussions** throughout the year so settlement house leaders could lean on each other for information while navigating the changing policies. (12.) We offered **conversations on the evolving nature of work** so settlement house leaders could learn from peers and help keep their centers and neighborhoods strong. Topics included the use of technology, social distancing, health screening, and equity.
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

We drove higher levels of civic participation by working with our members, partners, and philanthropists to unite community members of all ages around social change.

Our analysis of 2021 settlement house GOTV efforts demonstrated that settlement houses are effective at getting people to the polls.
ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

We successfully increased local civic participation through our Get Out The Vote work and Institute for Empowered Aging.

In 2021-22, we provided coaching and resources to settlement houses leading civic engagement activities and facilitated a Get Out The Vote working group for peer learning and support among staff. In November, our Institute for Empowered Aging was awarded The Eisner Foundation’s Eisner Prize of Intergenerational Excellence for its innovative practices, advocacy campaigns, and tools that promote neighborhood initiatives centered on and powered by older people.
MEDIA COVERAGE

We strategically engaged with reporters to advance our policy agenda, amplify the settlement house perspective, and promote stronger New York neighborhoods. In 2021-22, we were featured in over 100 local and national articles including top-tier publications and outlets.

The New York Times

*Noncitizens’ Right to Vote Becomes Law in New York City*

By Grace Anito  
Jan. 9, 2022

**CRAINS**

Exclusive: Senior services providers press city to delay and rework $689M funding process

**DAILY NEWS**

De Blasio stiffs nonprofits helping struggling NYers out of $120M, group says

By Rob St前后合
New York Daily News  
May 31, 2022 at 5:18 pm

**Chalkbeat**

NYC summer jobs program to reach 100,000 young people, Adams promises

By Joe Scott  
May 3, 2022

**CITY & STATE**

NYC’s Expansive Summer School Program May Be Hard to Pull Off

By Sue Reid  
May 13, 2022

**QNS**

Corona student awarded $1,500 scholarship for leadership, academic excellence

By Elana Marshall  
Oct. 20, 2021

**THE CITY**

NYCHA Child Care Centers Plagued by Unsanitary and Unsafe Conditions, Operators Say

By Joseph Williams  
Oct. 6, 2021

**APRIL***

Settlement house joins state network

By Anna Jacob  
Jan. 20, 2021

Our up-to-date media coverage can be found on our website at unhny.org/news.

**ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS:**

*Above: Top to bottom, left to right: Susan Stamler was interviewed by Greg Berman for New York Nonprofit Media’s “Leader to Leader” series. • The New York Times included Susan Stamler’s Letter to the Editor in response to the article, “Working Mothers, Punished by Pandemic, Mostly Kept Working.” • Nora Moran discussed our concerns with Pre-K and Child Care Access on Pix 11.*
We called attention to the problems facing settlement houses by collecting, analyzing, and sharing data from our members. Our reports, policy briefs, and testimonies informed City and State decision makers on local trends and brought actionable solutions to the table.

Our policy brief, “Investing in Home Delivered Meals for Older Adults in New York City,” explores food insecurity among older adults, identifies factors that lead to hunger, and recommends ways to strengthen the HDM system.
OUR 2021 SUPPORTERS

DONOR OF $1,000,000+
Gerstner Philanthropies

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Anonymous
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UNH’s Director of Institutional Development, Jennifer Powell, and The Eisner Foundation’s Chelsea Mason meet to celebrate The 2021 Eisner Prize winner, UNH’s Institute for Empowered Aging.
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Charles Thompson and Jean Mack
UJA-Federation of New York
Nancy Wackstein
Murray and Elizabeth Zung

We partnered with Paramount to offer $1,500 scholarships to 11 high school seniors and produce an awards ceremony to recognize the students’ achievements. (Right) Charles Wood, Manager of Events and Brand Experience at Paramount, snapped a pic mailing congratulatory gifts to the winners.
OUR 2021 FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021 (SELECTED DATA)

ASSETS

Cash, Cash Equivalents: .......................................................... $1,066,105
Other Assets: .......................................................... $559,996
Long-term Investments: .................................................. $12,449,302
Total Assets: .......................................................... $14,075,403

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

General Liabilities: .......................................................... $331,958
Net Assets without Donor Restrictions: ........................................... $11,811,757
Net Assets with Donor Restrictions: ........................................... $1,931,688
Total Net Assets: .......................................................... $13,743,445
Total Liabilities and Net Assets: ........................................... $14,075,403
2021 OPERATING EXPENSES

- Fundraising: 9.5%
- Management & General: 12.4%
- Program Services: 78.1%

2021 OPERATING REVENUE

- Corporations & Individuals: 17.7%
- Foundation Grants: 66.5%
- Membership Dues: 7.3%
- In-kind Contributions: 3%
- Paycheck Protection Program & Loan Forgiveness: 5.6%
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Susan Stamler
Executive Director

Lynn Appelbaum
Deputy Executive Director

STAFF
Dante Bravo
Youth Policy Analyst

Katie Cardwell
Professional Development & Data Analysis Manager

Lena Cohen
Senior Policy Analyst

J.T. Falcone
Deputy Director of Policy & Advocacy

Terry Kaelber
Director of the Institute for Empowered Aging

Tara Klein
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Jennifer Weil
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Board Members gathered at our 2022 Annual Meeting at Grand St. Settlement’s Essex Crossing.
UNH is a policy and social change organization representing 45 New York settlement houses. We mobilize our members and their communities to advocate for good public policies and promote strong organizations and practices.

UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES OF NEW YORK
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