

# 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Stronger neighborhoods, together.

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## A LETTER FROM UNH LEADERSHIP

*Left: Susan Stamler speaks at an Our City, Our Vote rally.*

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.

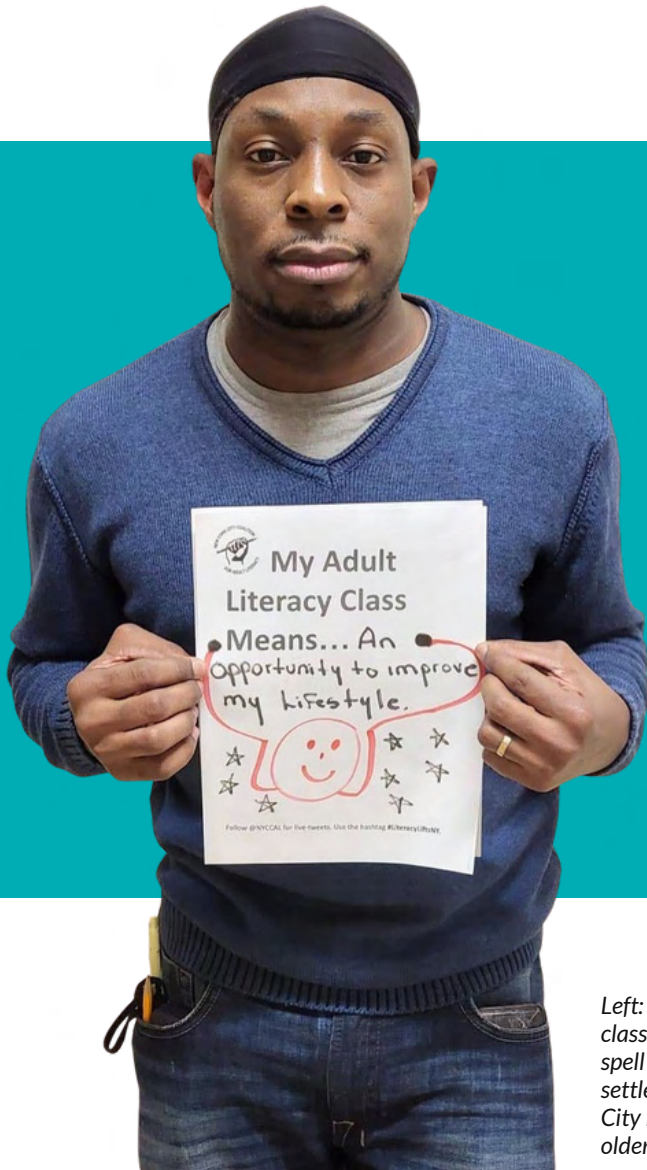
**Thank you for standing with us,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M. Bryna Sanger'.

M. Bryna Sanger,  
UNH Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Susan Stamler'.

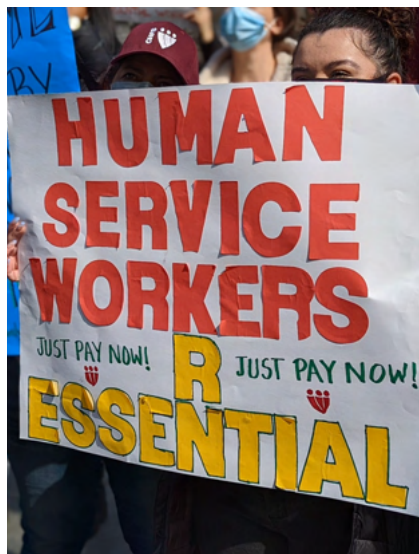
Susan Stamler,  
UNH Executive Director



## A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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.

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.

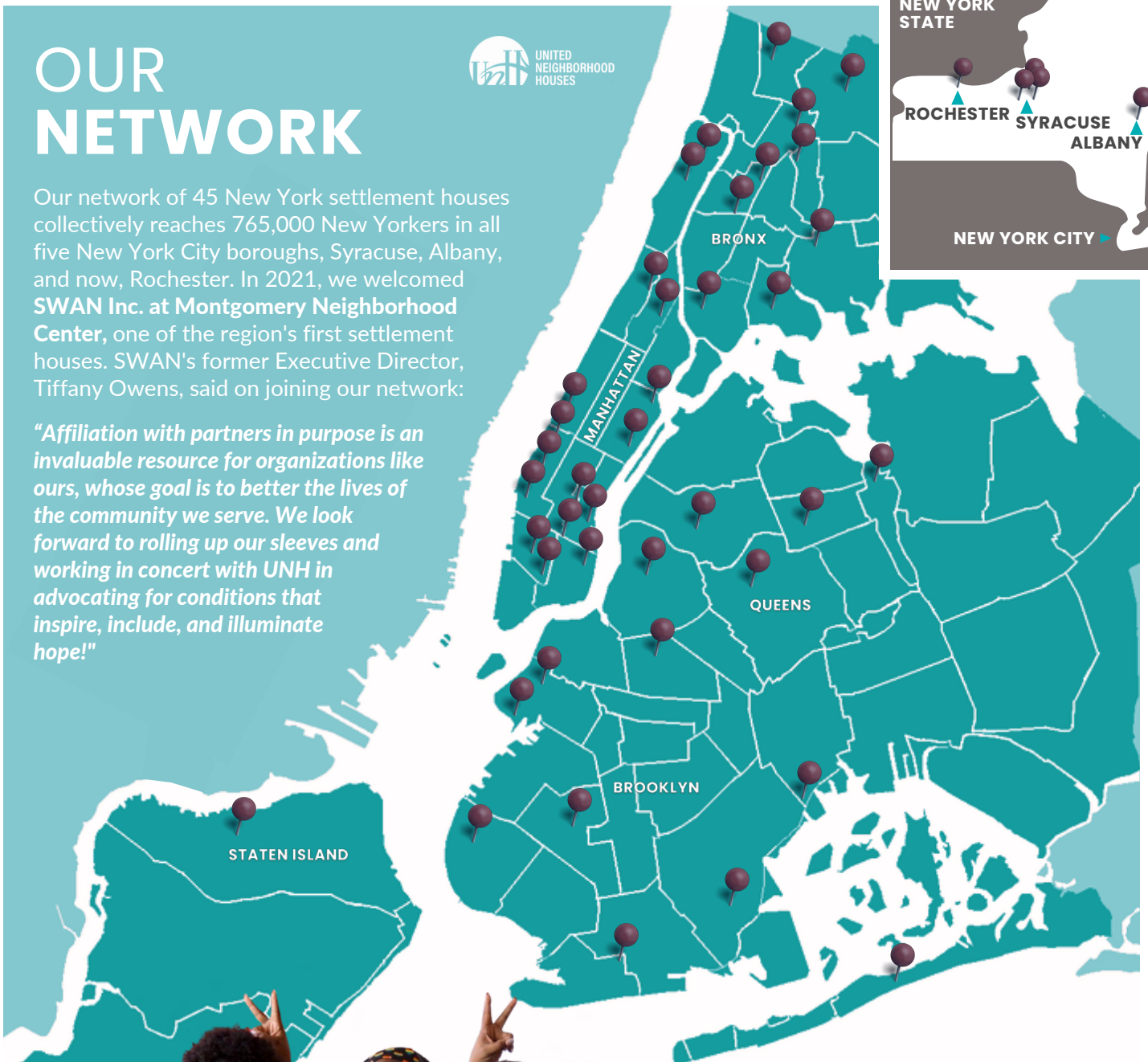
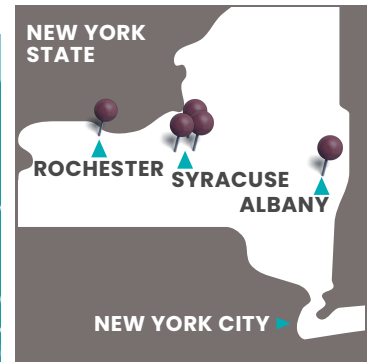


# OUR NETWORK



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!"*



## OUR MEMBERS >>>

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.

Youth at Grand St. Settlement

## OUR MEMBERS AT WORK

**Settlement houses take a holistic approach to meeting their neighbors' needs, fostering resiliency, and addressing the barriers that impede individual, family, and community stability.**

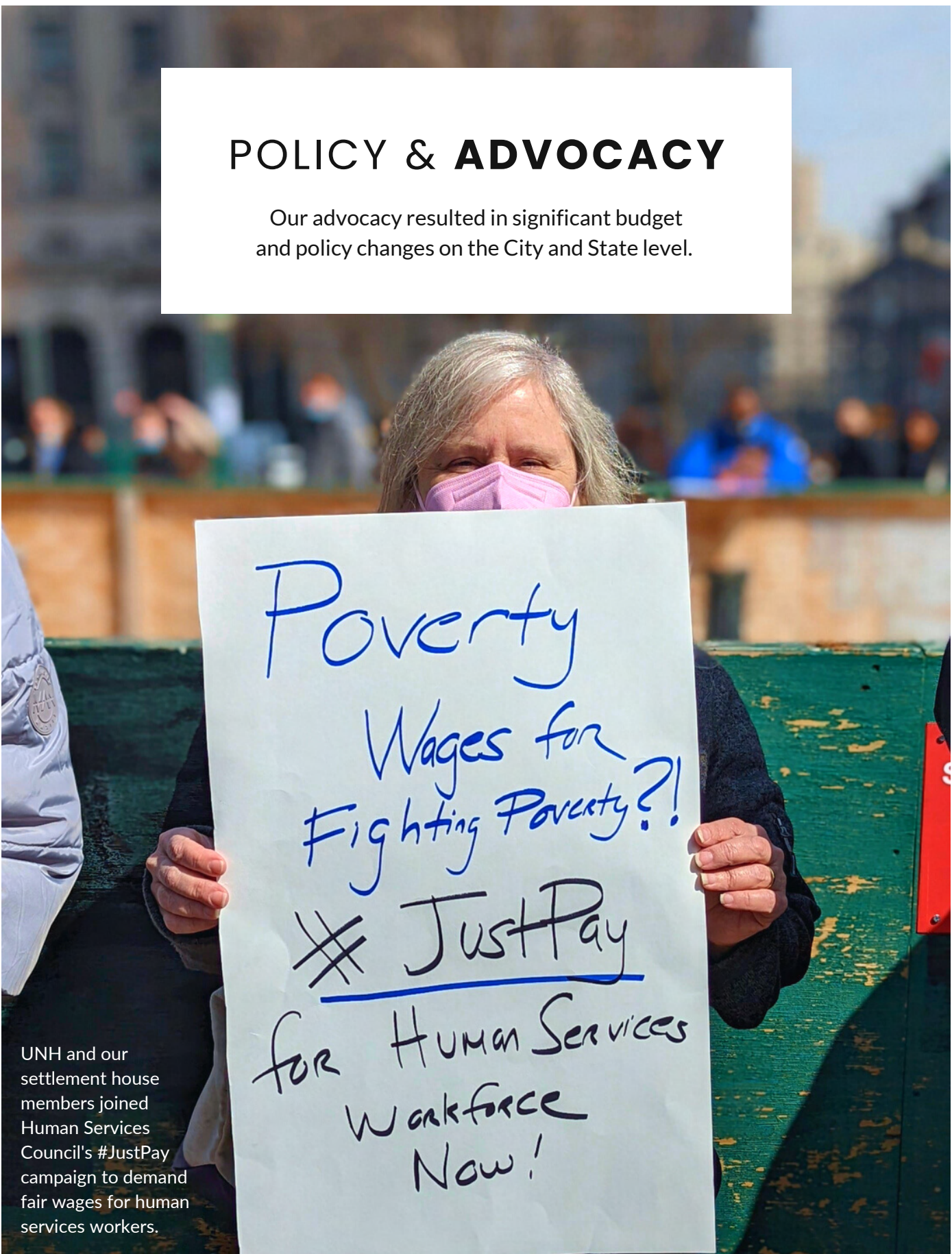
In 2021, settlement houses remained on the front lines helping their communities navigate the twists and turns of the pandemic. They addressed food insecurity, housing instability, mental health, and education, while simultaneously facing mounting budget and staffing challenges. This year, they are successfully 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.

## POLICY & **ADVOCACY**

Our advocacy resulted in significant budget and policy changes on the City and State level.

A woman with grey hair and a pink face mask is holding a white sign with handwritten text. The sign reads: "Poverty Wages for Fighting Poverty?! # Just Pay for Human Services Workforce Now!". The background is a blurred outdoor setting with other people and a green barrier.

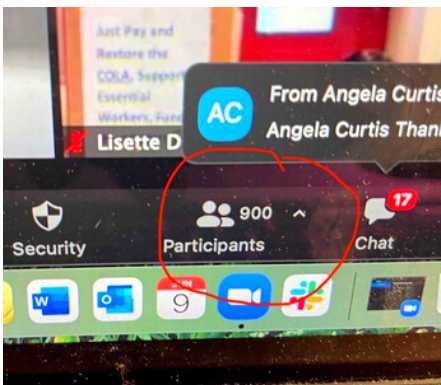
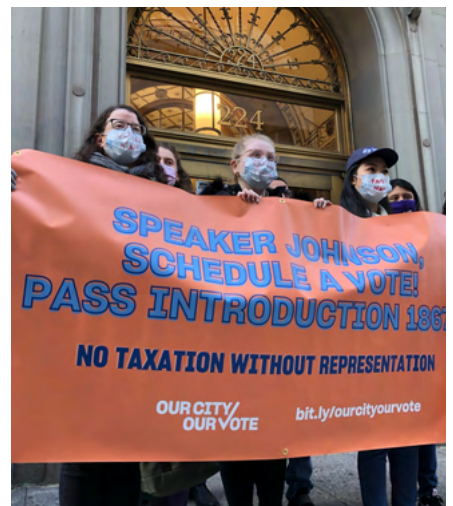
Poverty  
Wages for  
Fighting Poverty?!  
~~##~~ Just Pay  
for Human Services  
Workforce  
Now!

UNH and our settlement house members joined Human Services Council's #JustPay campaign to demand fair wages for human services workers.

# ADVOCACY IN ACTION

**We advanced our network's priorities by employing a mix of targeted strategies.**

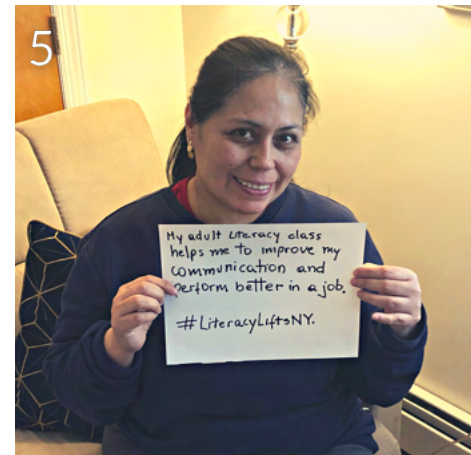
In 2021-22, we united settlement houses and joined fellow advocates to call for change in the following areas: voting rights for NYC's green card holders and legal residents; fair wages for human services workers, including child care and home care workers; accessible and affordable child care; securing 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.



# CHANGE & PROGRESS

**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.







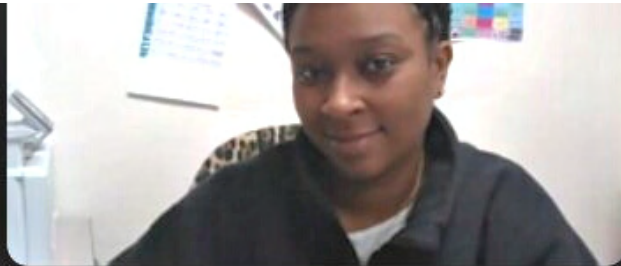
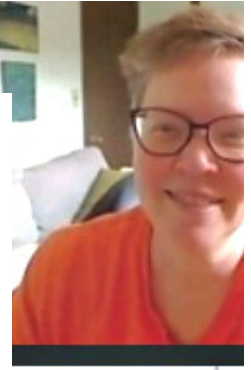
(7.) We advocated for a \$19.2 million investment for **child care vouchers** for low-income and immigrant families and a commitment from the City for **pay parity** for special education pre-K teachers and child care providers. (8.) We called for greater investment in the **Home Delivered Meals Program**, 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.



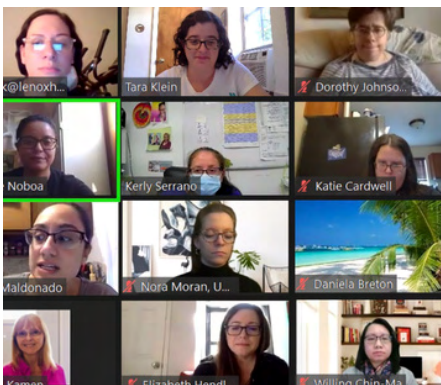
Thirty staff from 22 settlement houses successfully completed our new leadership development and networking program, **Leading for Impact.**



# SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS

**We fostered unity, community, and stability throughout our network.**

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.



# 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.

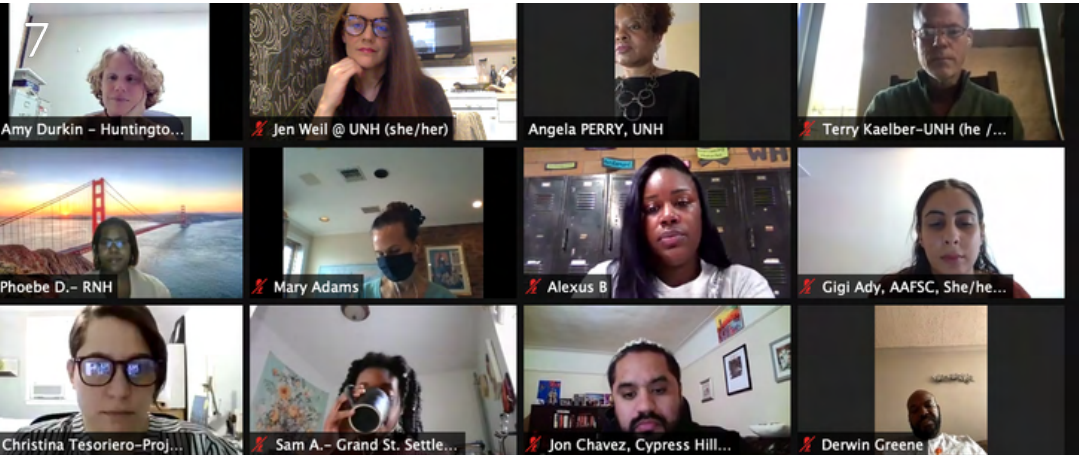


6. Anyins' fervent passions are rooted in her Nigerian upbringing, culture of spiritualism, and prayer over medicine. At Boston College, she hopes to continue her goal of changing people's mindsets regarding medical institutions and healthcare.

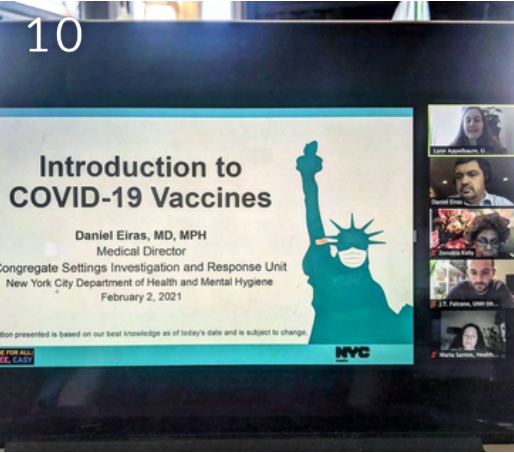
**OLUKANTI OLOJEDE**  
BOSTON COLLEGE

**CONGRATS TO OUR 11 UNH-PARAMOUNT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!**

[Click here](#) to watch the full ceremony on YouTube.



(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.

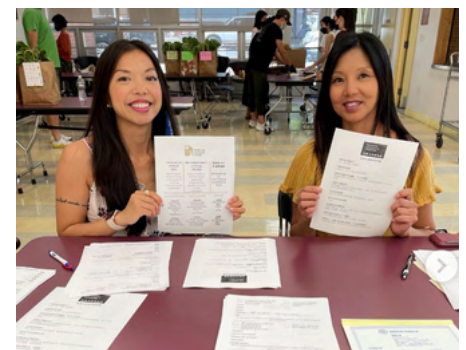


Our analysis of 2021 settlement house GOTV efforts demonstrated that settlement houses are effective at getting people to the polls.

# 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 Ashfor | Jan. 9, 2022

## CRAIN'S

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

By MAYA KAUFMAN | May 18, 2021 09:30 AM

## DAILY NEWS

### De Blasio stiffens nonprofits helping struggling NYers out of \$120M, group says

By Shant Shahrigian | New York Daily News • Nov 07, 2021 at 5:35 pm

## Chalkbeat

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

By Alex Zimmerman | Feb 16, 2022, 4:55pm EST



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

By JESSICA BRILL | PUBLISHED JUNE 9, 2021



### NYC's initiative covering nonprofit overhead will fund less this year

Reimbursement will be even lower than it was last year, when the initiative's funding was cut.  
By KAY DERVISHI | MARCH 25, 2021



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

By Ethan Marshall | 0 comments | Posted on July 28, 2022



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

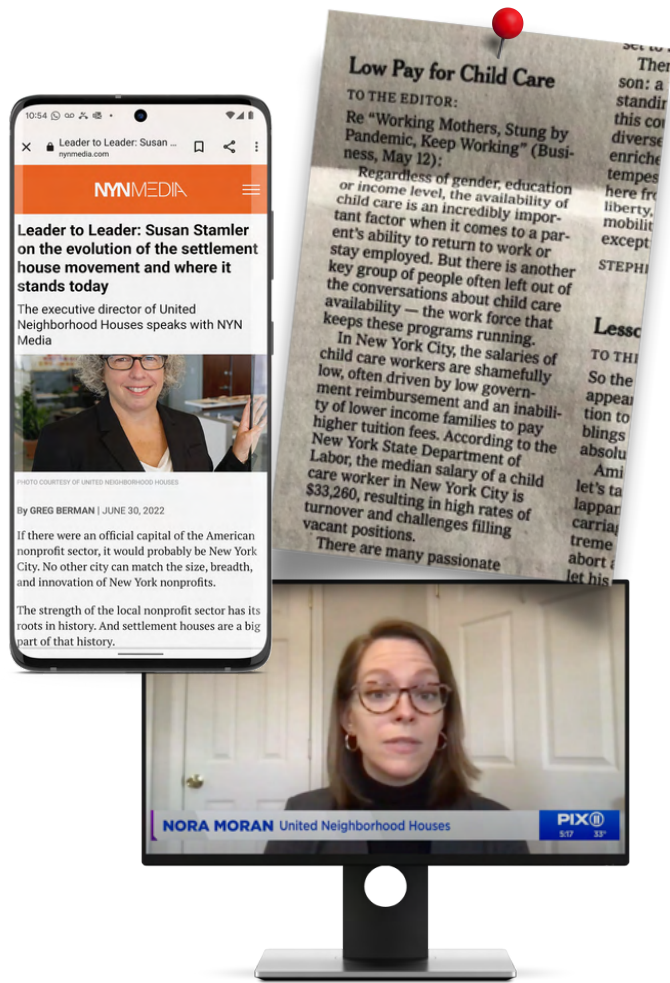
By JESSICA WASHINGTON, THE FULLER PROJECT | OCT 26, 2021, 12:25PM EDT



### Settlement house joins state network

By SMRITI JACOB | October 26, 2021

**Our up-to-date media coverage can be found on our website at [uhnny.org/news](http://uhnny.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.

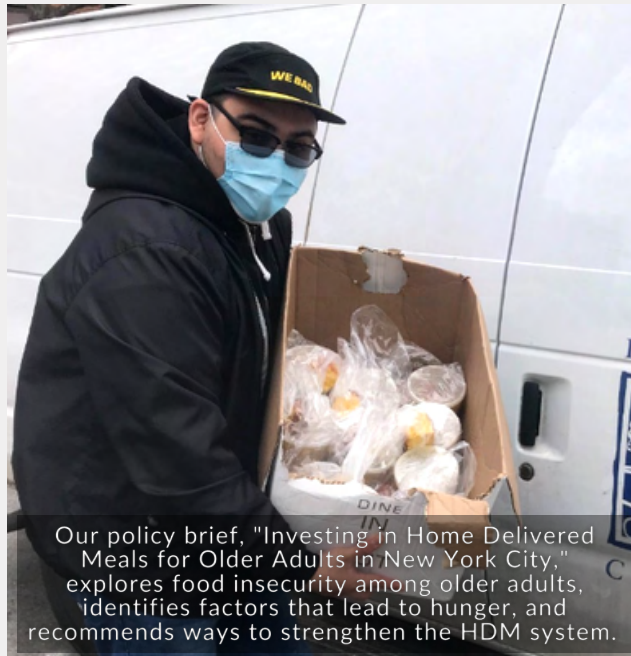


# PUBLISHED REPORTS

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.



**Rebuilding and Resilience:**  
A 2021 Policy Platform for New York City  
by United Neighborhood Houses



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.

**Investing in Home Delivered Meals for Older Adults in New York City**

INTRODUCTION

As of 2019, there are 1.76 million older adults aged 60 and over living in New York City, a 24-percent increase from 1.41 million in 2010. Older adults now account for one out of every three New Yorkers, with this population expected to increase to 1.86 million by 2040. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, 15 percent of older New Yorkers were considered food insecure. Nearly a quarter of older adults reported receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in 2019, with the number of older adults who received SNAP benefits rising by 20 percent, from just under 300,000 in 2010 to 410,000 in 2019.

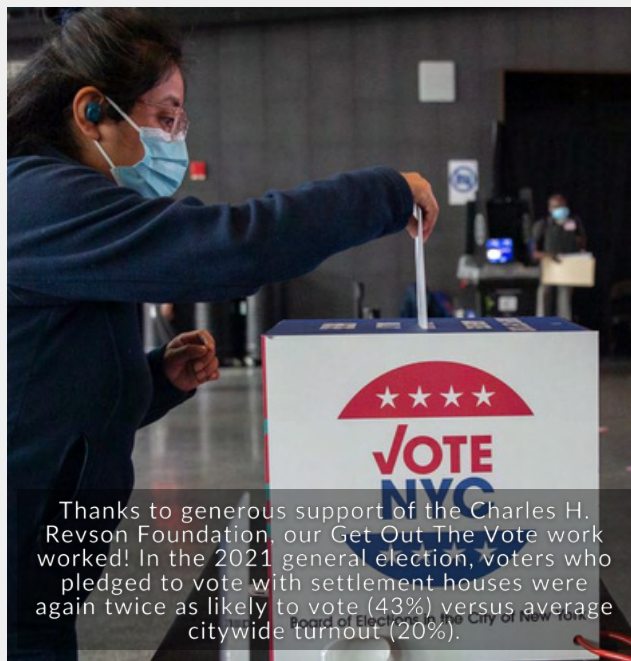
17 years ago, the Older Americans Act (OAA) Nutrition Program was signed into law in March 1972, establishing the first federal program to improve the food security of older adults. Decades later, the OAA Senior Nutrition Program administered by the US Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Community Living (ACL) continues to fund local agencies and organizations that help older adults aged 60 and over access healthy meals and other resources, including meals delivered directly to their doors. In New York City, the Department for the Aging (DFA) operates the Home Delivered Meals (HDM) program through a network of contracted (and subcontracted) community-based organizations ("providers") and commercial caterers. To receive home-delivered meals, an older adult must receive authorization from a DFA-funded case management organization following an assessment. Older adults with a disability or diminished mobility that makes it difficult for them to shop for food or prepare their meals are eligible for the HDM program. Nonprofit providers, which include four settlement houses who are food contractors, deliver a daily nutritious meal five days a week to these homebound older adults while ensuring that HDM participants receive case management, regular in-person wellness checks, and contact from divvies who are trained on how to work with older adults. In FY 2021, the HDM program served 4.2 million home delivered meals to 26,273 older adults.

This brief provides an overview of food insecurity among older adults during the pandemic and the City's response to addressing this problem, the chronic underfunding of DFA's HDM program exacerbated by rising inflation, and a list of recommendations to enhance and improve the program so that no homebound older adult who needs a meal is denied one.



**R.E.A.L. EQUITY**  
An agenda to build a fair and just city for all New Yorkers

CCFC Citizens' Committee for Children  
FPWA  
UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES



Thanks to generous support of the Charles H. Revson Foundation, our Get Out The Vote work worked! In the 2021 general election, voters who pledged to vote with settlement houses were again twice as likely to vote (43%) versus average citywide turnout (20%).

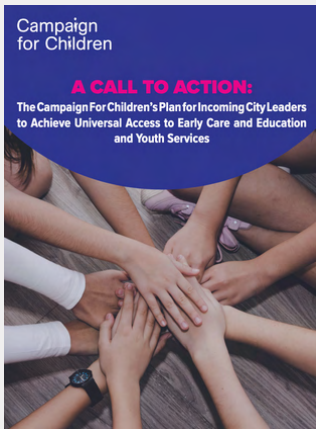
**UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES**

**Settlement Houses**  
**GET OUT THE VOTE!**  
2021 Report

Published By:  
United Neighborhood Houses  
August 17, 2022

Written By:  
Lena Cohen, UNH Senior Policy Analyst, and  
Thomas Fischer, GOTV Data Consultant

Made possible by the generous support of the Charles H. Revson Foundation.



**Campaign for Children**

**A CALL TO ACTION:**  
The Campaign For Children's Plan for Incoming City Leaders to Achieve Universal Access to Early Care and Education and Youth Services

**UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES**

**The Need to Strengthen the Economic Security of the Settlement House Workforce: Voices from the Field**

Published By:  
United Neighborhood Houses  
September 2022

Written By:  
Natalie Lane, UNH Senior Research Analyst



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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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*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

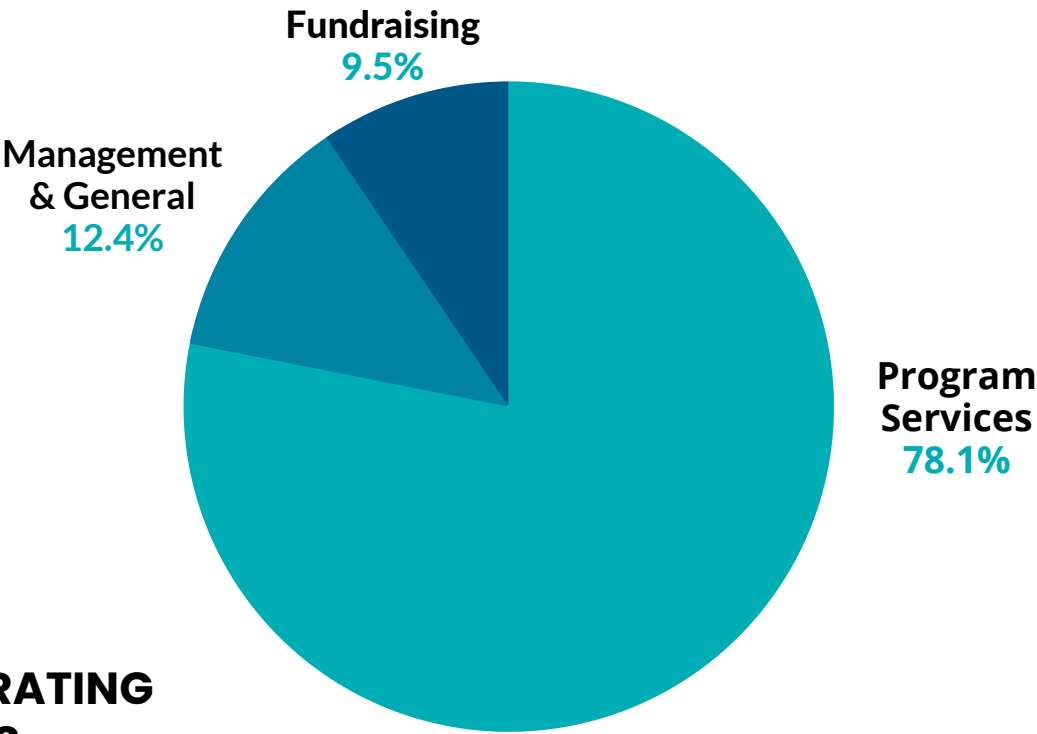
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021 (SELECTED DATA)

## ASSETS

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

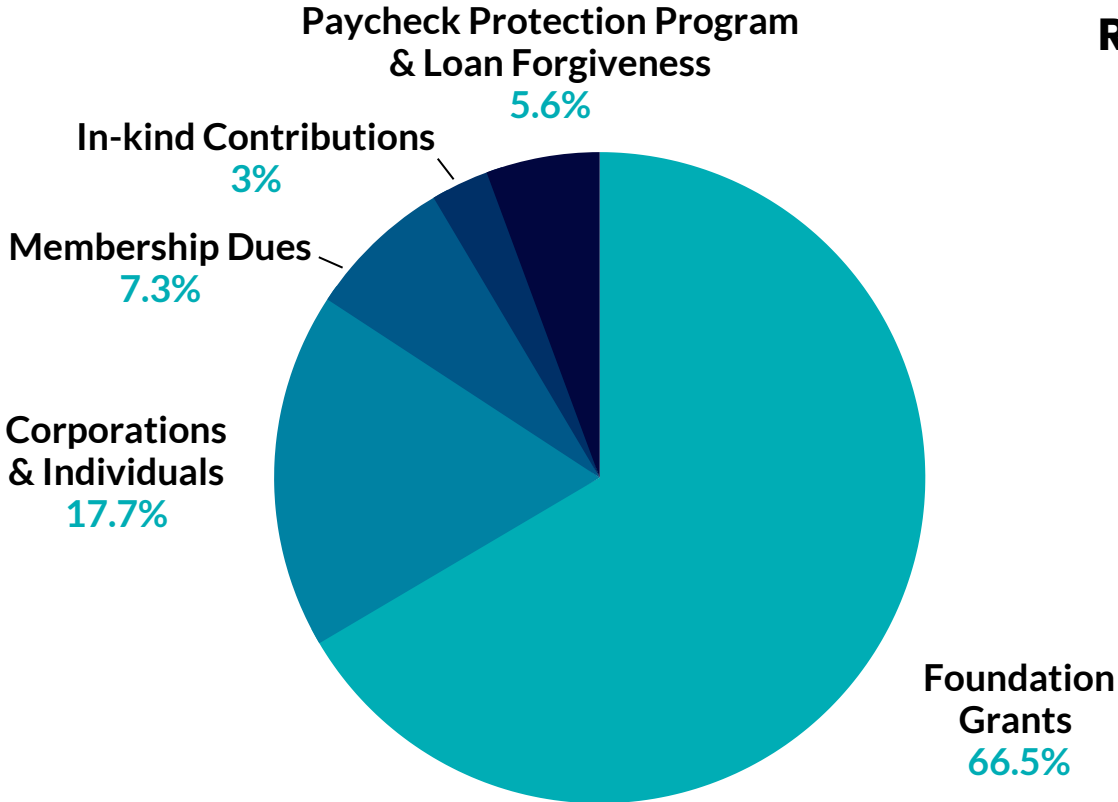
## LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

General Liabilities: .....	<b>\$331,958</b>
Net Assets without Donor Restrictions: .....	<b>\$11,811,757</b>
Net Assets with Donor Restrictions: .....	<b>\$1,931,688</b>
Total Net Assets: .....	<b>\$13,743,445</b>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets: .....	<b>\$14,075,403</b>



**2021 OPERATING EXPENSES**

**2021 OPERATING REVENUE**



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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**  
*Deputy Director of  
Policy & Advocacy*

**Irene Lew**  
*Senior Research Analyst*

**Maria Longo**  
*Director of Finance &  
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**Mark McGrath**  
*Chief Development Officer*

**Nora Moran**  
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**Angela Perry**  
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**Jennifer Powell**  
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**Angela Sabblah**  
*Policy & Advocacy  
Communications  
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**Madeline Santiago**  
*Administrative  
Assistant*

**Abigail Torres**  
*Administrative  
Associate*

**Jennifer Velasquez**  
*Manager of Individual  
Giving*

**Jennifer Weil**  
*Director of External  
Relations*

**INTERNS, FELLOWS, &  
VOLUNTEERS**

**Carmela Frattasi**  
*Volunteer*

**Jody Kelley**  
*Policy & Advocacy  
Intern*

**Elvan Sahin**  
*Policy Analyst/ACLS  
Leading Edge Fellow*



*Susan Stamler*

*Lynn Appelbaum*

**OUR STAFF**



*UNH Staff took a tour of East Side House Settlement.*

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*Chief Executive Officer,  
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Mary Elizabeth Taylor  
Charles Thompson  
Jessica Walker  
Akram Zaman

**OUR BOARD**



Board Members gathered at our 2022 Annual Meeting at Grand St. Settlement's Essex Crossing.



## OUR **MISSION**

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.

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**UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES OF NEW YORK**

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