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United Neighborhood Houses Statement on Labor Agreement on Salary Parity in Early Childhood Education

Agreement signals next step in achieving salary parity

NEW YORK – July 9, 2019 – In response to the labor agreement on salary parity in early childhood education, UNH Executive Director Susan Stamler commented:

“Early childhood education staff work hard every day at community-based organizations (CBOs) to educate and care for New York City children and deserve fair compensation for their work. We applaud today’s announcement that New York City will fund a path towards salary parity for teachers, staff, and directors at CBOs with their counterparts in public schools. We appreciate the dedication of DC 37, DC 1707, and the Day Care Council, as well as our city’s leaders, to this historic agreement.

“As a leader of Campaign for Children, a coalition of over 150 organizations, we know that today’s announcement is a product of years of advocating for high quality early childhood education. In 2016, UNH issued two reports, [Losing the Best](#) and [Starting Strong](#), to demonstrate the high performance of CBO programs and offer a new vision for an early childhood system. In 2018, UNH and SeaChange Capital issued a report on a [true cost analysis](#) of early childhood education programs in settlement houses that advocated for key investments in the system, including salary parity and more realistic indirect rates.

“We thank Mayor de Blasio, Speaker Johnson, and the New York City Council for their commitment to end salary disparities in the early childhood system. Today’s milestone would not have been possible without the grassroots efforts of thousands of parents, educators, and settlement house leaders. Council Members, including Cumbo, Dromm, Levin, and Treyger, Comptroller Stringer, and all five Borough Presidents stood up to rally and advocate for salary parity alongside us.

“UNH is proud to have played a significant role in this campaign and, along with our child care advocacy partners, remains committed to working towards full parity in the months and years ahead.”

About United Neighborhood Houses

United Neighborhood Houses (UNH) is a policy and social change organization representing 42 neighborhood settlement houses that reach 765,000 New Yorkers from all walks of life. Now in our 100th year, 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. UNH leads advocacy and partners with our members on a broad range of issues including civic and community engagement, neighborhood affordability, healthy aging, early childhood education, adult literacy, and youth development. We also provide customized professional development and peer learning to build the skills and leadership capabilities of settlement house staff at all levels. For more information, visit <http://www.unhny.org/>.

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