



45 Broadway | 22nd Floor | New York, NY 10006
 (212) 967-0322 | www.unhny.org

United Neighborhood Houses: Building Strong Communities
State Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Priorities Overview

For over 100 years settlement houses have welcomed New Yorkers through their doors providing services that foster opportunity and promote health, well-being and belonging. Settlement houses build a stronger New York, individual by individual, family by family, and neighborhood by neighborhood, with early childhood education and afterschool programs, adult literacy and workforce development programs, senior centers and older adult services, housing assistance, behavioral health programs, and more. Each year, UNH advocates for budget and policy priorities that support effective settlement house programs and stronger communities.

SETTLEMENT HOUSE PRIORITIES: To ensure settlement houses can run effective, high quality programs and services in their communities, UNH recommends the following:

Issue	FY2019-2020 Recommendation
Settlement House Program	Renew \$2.45m and increase to \$5.0m to help settlement houses respond to diverse programming needs in their neighborhoods not supported by traditional contracts.
Contracts, Indirect Rates, and Salaries	Amend existing State contracts and ensure all future procurements are stabilized and fully funded by including: an across-the-board indirect rate of at least 15%, compliance with new overtime exemption rules, and increased minimum wage costs.

BUDGET PRIORITIES: UNH recommends the restoration and expansion of the following programs in order for settlement houses to serve their communities and expand their reach to even more New Yorkers in need:

Issue	FY2019-2020 Recommendation
Adult Literacy Education (ALE)	Restore \$1.5m and increase to \$15.3m to serve 7,500 additional immigrants and adult learners, offsetting programming shifts in NYS due to the federal <i>Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act</i> .
Advantage Afterschool	Renew \$5 million and increase by \$15.5 million in order to maintain access to services for 3,600 children and their families and increase per child rates to reflect rising costs.
Census 2020	Invest \$40m to support community-based organizations leading local outreach, education, and technical assistance in hard-to-count communities.
Child Care Subsidies	Increase investment by \$51m to \$912.5m to expand access and address workforce salary issues.
Home Care Employee Compensation	Fully reimburse home care providers for any additional financial burden that results from court rulings on 13-hour versus 24-hour home care employee compensation. Additionally, consider alternative employee pay structures such as split shifts or on-call variable pay, and coordinate oversight via a short-term task force and a permanent office to ensure stability and sustainability of the sector.

(over)

Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORC)	Add \$775k in additional funding for nursing services within NORCs to cover the recent decline in pro-bono nursing services, on top of \$8.06m renewed to maintain recent program enhancements and provide stability for newly contracted programs.
Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Funds	Re-establish and baseline \$100m to address ongoing capital improvements for human services nonprofit providers.
NYCHA Community Center Capital Funding	Allocate \$500m to cover infrastructure repairs in community spaces located in NYCHA facilities.
YouthBuild	Restore \$300k to provide training in construction for out-of-school and out-of-work 17-24 year-olds.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY PRIORITIES: UNH endorses the following policy reforms and urges the legislature and executive chamber to make them a reality:

Issue	Proposal
Database of Deals	Promote accountability for the recipients of the state's billions of dollars in economic development subsidies and tax credits by creating a publicly searchable database of the commitments made to New Yorkers and the recipients' progress toward them.
Elder Parole	Require greater consideration of parole for New York's older adults over the age of 50, most of whom can safely re-integrate in society and often have significant medical needs that drive up the cost of their incarceration.
Election Reform	Improve access to the ballot by funding early voting, passing automatic voter registration, as well as restoring voting rights for individuals on parole and improving flexibility to change party affiliation.
Flip Tax	Slow the loss of affordable housing by discouraging speculative buying and flipping of properties in New York City.
Rent Regulations	Help New Yorkers stay in their homes by renewing rent regulations and expanding their protections by eliminating vacancy decontrol and the vacancy bonus.

United Neighborhood Houses (UNH) is the 100-year old membership organization of New York's settlement houses. We mobilize our members and their communities to advocate for good public policies, and we promote strong organizations and practices that keep neighborhoods resilient and thriving for all New Yorkers. Today, UNH's membership includes 40 settlement houses in New York City and two in upstate New York. UNH's work strengthens the capacity of more than 30,000 employees and volunteers working across 680 locations to continue providing necessary services and quality of life enrichments for over 765,000 New Yorkers who come to settlement houses each year.