Raising Voices

StrengtheningMembers

AdvancingPractice

EncouragingLeaders

PreparingYouth



2016 Annual Report







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- 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
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- 35. Union Settlement
- 36. United Community Centers
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- 38. Women's Housing & Economic Development Corp. (WHEDco)



From the President and Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Settlement houses have been evolving for more than a century to address the changing needs of marginalized populations, combat poverty and discrimination, and empower communities to use their strengths to improve individual, family, and neighborhood life. And for almost 100 years, United Neighborhood Houses has been proud to support them, by incubating innovative programs, customizing professional development, and advocating at all levels of government for policies and funding that strengthen settlement houses' ability to meet the needs of their communities.

In 2016, we increased and enhanced the ways in which we support our settlement house members. We have expanded our advocacy work to include regularly publishing well-received and frequent-

ly-cited policy briefs and proactive system change recommendations. Our professional development and peer learning have been broadened to include training settlement house staff to register voters and promote civic engagement, and we are bringing together settlement house leaders to reflect on how to best support their staffs and communities in the face of growing xenophobia. We also increased momentum on our work to shift practices in older adult services to provide meaningful opportunities for our aging neighbors to remain vibrant and active in their communities.

Today, more people and institutions are wondering what they can do to stand up for their neighbors and promote positive change. UNH can help, by continuing to support our members to do what settlement houses have done for more than

a century – be engaged, be active, and speak up for what is right – and through their local settlement house, we provide communities with the resources to stand up and be heard.

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

Sincerely,

M. Bryna Sanger, UNH Board President

Susan Stamler.

UNH Executive Director



UNH Executive Director Susan Stamler and Board President Bryna Sanger at the 2016 New Yorkers Who Make a Difference Benefit with Emcee Arun Venugopal of WNYC and honorees Norman Levy, UNH Board Member, and WNET, creators of the Treasures of New York: Settlement Houses documentary.

UNH drives public policy reform and public support for vital programs and practices that strengthen New York City's neighborhoods by elevating the voice and experience of settlement houses and their communities.

Raising the Voices of Our Communities

ADVOCACY VICTORIES

Summer camp is a critical resource for families and provides affordable, safe, active, and educational care that addresses summer learning loss while parents are at work. When 31,000 New York City children were at risk of losing their summer camp in 2016, UNH, as a lead member of the Campaign for Children, organized families and providers to stage call-in and postcard campaigns, hosted numerous rallies at City Hall, and arranged for "Summer Camp at City Hall" to showcase for lawmakers the great lessons youth learn while in summer camp. Thanks in part to this major effort, summer camp was reinstated for 26,000 children.

UNH also brought attention to the crisis of a budget cut that eliminated adult literacy programs for 6,300 adult learners, many of whom depend on these programs to learn English, improve their job prospects, and support their children. As a lead member of the New York City Coalition for



Adult Literacy, UNH held press conferences, led social media campaigns, and organized rallies throughout the City to demonstrate broad support for these programs. These efforts were successful, and the City invested \$12 million in community-based adult literacy programs.

At the State level, UNH organized older adults and service providers to meet with lawmakers to advocate for the preservation and expansion of critical health and social services provided by Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORC) programs in the face of a proposed cut. NORCs are vital community resources that support older New Yorkers and help them live in their homes as they age, avoiding nursing homes and remaining in their community. This advocacy resulted in the State Enacted Budget including an additional \$2 million for NORC programs.

STATE ADVOCACY DAY

UNH led a delegation of 40 executive staff and senior leaders from member organizations to Albany for our annual State Advocacy Day. Staff from several upstate settlement houses joined their New York City colleagues for 66 meetings with state lawmakers and their staff to advocate for expanded investments in early childhood education, after-school programs, adult education, older adult services, and more.

PUBLISHED PAPERS

Over the past year, we have expanded the ways we carry out our work to include publication of policy briefs and proactive system change recommendations that are helping to inform lawmakers and advocate for our members. Our 2016 publications include:

Starting Strong: the Settlement House Vision for New York City's Comprehensive Early Childhood Education System, a report based on the first-hand experience of settle-





ment houses, presents ways to reform and strengthen early childhood education in New York City.

The ABCs of New York State
Medicaid Redesign: A Primer for
Community-Based Organizations
explains changes in the Medicaid program due to an overhaul by New York
State as well as the Affordable Care
Act as a guide for settlement houses
as they navigate the new and complicated Medicaid system in New York.

Losing the Best explains the issue of salary parity for early childhood educators in community-based organizations. These providers are paid significantly less than their public school colleagues, despite having the same education, responsibilities, and funding source. This disparity has led to great teachers leaving their organizations to work at public schools, and children in low-income areas pay the price. This publication enhanced our advocacy efforts, resulting in increases for vital educators.



although they are still not on par with public school teachers.

Summer Jobs for NYC's Youth provided lawmakers with a detailed plan to expand the

Summer Youth Employment Program to meet demand by 2019. Despite more than 54,000 youth participating in the program, a historic high, tens of thousands of applicants were turned away. This plan lays out a path to provide 100,000 youth the opportunity of participating in SYEP, and helped secure 70,000 slots for SYEP in FY2018.

UNH provides opportunities for staff at all levels to **build skills** and capacity while regularly bringing groups of staff together to showcase and share expertise and best practices, and spark thinking, action, collaboration, and innovation.

Strengthening Our Members through Professional Development

EMM SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2016, UNH awarded 31 Emily Menlo Marks Scholarships to settlement house staff continuing their education. By encouraging these motivated staff members to expand their knowledge and achieve their educational goals, we are supporting their continued and increasing contributions to their settlement house employers. Winners included an Assistant Teacher earning a master's in Teaching English as a Second Language, an Administrative Assistant earning a Bachelor in Social Work, and a Bookkeeper Clerk working towards a degree in Business Management and Accounting.



EMM scholarship winners Tanea Pugh and Judy Sanchez with their certificates.



ADVOCACY INSTITUTE

For the second year, UNH coordinated a training with The Advocacy Institute to educate settlement house staff about the City and State legislative process and share strategies for advocating for change. This year the program was expanded to three days and 19 staff from 11 UNH member settlement houses participated. Past participants have become more involved in UNH's advocacy efforts by speaking at rallies, testifying at City Council hearings, and traveling to Albany to meet with lawmakers.

PEER LEARNING

UNH brings together settlement house staff from all levels in peer learning groups that are formed either by staff role or issue area, such as aging and youth development. Topics addressed in these dynamic learning groups are guided by the requests and interests of settlement house staff, and include trainings, discussion, and sharing of best practices. In 2016, UNH began the process of expanding and deepening peer learning activities, adding a group for facilities staff and one for staff responsible for organization and program evaluation, and enhancing other groups, such as those for human resources and finance.

EMERGING LEADERS

In 2016, 22 students graduated from UNH's Emerging Leaders Management Training, an executive education program for rising leaders from UNH member organizations. The program leads to a certificate in nonprofit leadership from Baruch College's Marxe School of Public and International Affairs, During 10 sessions, participants learned about the history of the settlement house movement, budgeting. fundraising essentials, teambuilding, supervision, and leadership. The course concluded with team projects which addressed challenges faced by settlement houses.



Arjanita Elezaj makes a presentation at the final meeting of the Emerging Leaders program before getting her certificate.

Settlement houses originated from a commitment to leveraging community strengths over time to meet community need and inform the field. UNH upholds this tradition through a variety of special initiatives that foster innovative and promising practices.

Advancing Practice

FAMILY LITERACY

Settlement houses have long served as a source of learning for all ages. From immigrant adults learning English to children developing early literacy, many generations benefit from the ways settlement houses bring people together to learn from and with one another. This practice of intergenerational learning is one that settlement houses are particularly well-suited to implement. In 2016, UNH launched a campaign to promote settlement houses' continued pioneering of Family Literacy models, with UNH bringing practitioners, experts, and parents together to uncover, improve, and promote an emerging field of practice. This work includes efforts to secure new resources to support family literacy programming, promote flexibility in current funding streams to facilitate implementation of a family literacy model, and, with a workgroup of settlement houses, continue identifying barriers to family literacy models utilizing current public funding streams.

REIMAGINING AGING IN NEW YORK CITY

A growing body of research shows that when older adults are engaged in meaningful activities they help improve their communities and markedly improve their own health and wellbeing. In response, UNH is leading an emerging practice that empowers older adults to make change in their neighborhoods through an asset-based and purpose-driven approach.

Now in its second year, UNH's Older Adults Strengthening Communities Through Food Initiative involved five UNH member organizations' senior centers which engaged older adults in projects to expand access to healthy food in their communities. Projects included creation of a healthy food box distribution program, a pop-up smoothie café, and a community cooking demonstration series. As a result of this initiative, participants reported increased feelings of community connection, better health, and a greater sense of purpose and meaning.

This important initiative continues as nine new settlement houses have joined with projects that expand beyond food issues to address other community needs, such as finding affordable housing and serving as job coaches for community teens.

EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE

The Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH) Collaborative is a professional development program designed and launched by UNH in partnership with the New York Center for Child Development. This program offers specialized training and consultation to educators in the areas of early childhood trauma, mental health, and social-emotional development. ECMH was developed in direct response to a need expressed by member organizations who were witnessing escalating behavioral and mental health issues among the young children and



Youth enjoy smoothies from a pop-up café run by a team of older adults.

families they serve. As early findings have been extremely positive for children, families, and early childhood educators, the program is expanding in 2017 to more UNH member organizations, which collectively serve more than 15,000 infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children in New York City each year.

UNH VIEWED AS LEADER AT HOME AND ABROAD

> Berlin, Germany: UNH Co-Director of Policy and Advocacy Kevin Douglas attended the International Federation of Settlements conference in Berlin, the theme of which was the crisis of migrants and refugees. Kevin presented to the group about the way UNH and settlement houses engage in youth advocacy, particularly our work leading the Campaign for Summer Jobs.

> Portland, Oregon: UNH Director of Community Engagement Projects Terry Kaelber and Deputy Executive Director Lynn Appelbaum represented UNH as one of the few non-grantmaking organizations invited to attend and present at the Grantmakers in Aging annual conference. They co-hosted an "Idea Exchange" to facilitate discussions around innovative programming that supports older adults as leaders in their communities. Terry also spoke on a panel entitled "Funders Driving Change and Sustaining Change Through Engagement."

Aspen, Colorado and Washington D.C.: UNH Deputy Executive Director Lynn Appelbaum worked with Ascend at the Aspen Institute to help develop recommendations for reports on policy ideas for lawmakers and career pathways for families.

UNH delivers and supports programs that strengthen the capacity of tomorrow's civic leaders, from staff currently working in settlement houses to youth preparing to lead change in the future.

Encouraging Today's Community Leaders

CIVIC ADVOCACY AWARD

UNH values and celebrates settlement house staff who go above and beyond in contributing to their communities.

Among the ways we celebrate this work is through the annual UNH Award for Achievement in Civic Advocacy, which recognizes UNH member organization staff who have had a significant impact on a public policy or local community. 2016 award winners included:

> Roy Frias of United Community Centers, who fought tirelessly to change the City's plans for rezoning a 30 block area in East New York that would have resulted in many residents being pushed out of their homes and out of the area; and

> Bonnie Lumagui of Educational Alliance, a fierce advocate for programs and policies that impact older adults, who played an important role in motivating the State to restore \$1.65 million to the Naturally Occurring Retirement Community supportive services program in the 2016-2017 budget.

Efforts of such exceptional staff in 2016 include:

- **> Combating** anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim sentiment through a poster campaign that grew to a highly visible, citywide demonstration of all NYC settlement houses' support for immigrants.
- **Ambreen Qureshi**, Arab-American Family Support Center
- **> Fighting** for six years alongside community members to secure City funding to improve a neighborhood park that could no longer be used due to issues of quality and safety.
- **Diogenes Abreu**, Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation

- > Spearheading the creation of a Community Advisory Board and a neighborhood gathering space where community voices and concerns are now shared, which has encouraged a more empowered and civically engaged community.
- **Talia DeRogatis**, Henry Street Settlement
- > Leading a coalition of community stakeholders to continue to protect valuable open space and a precious community resource in Queens.
- **Anna Dioguardi Moyano**, Queens Community House

- **> Collecting** over 1,000 signatures to prevent funding cuts threatening a transformational program for teens on the Lower East Side.
- **Daisy Paez**, Educational Alliance
- **> Mobilizing** and encouraging Adult Literacy students to be civically minded, engaged, and empowered to participate in the political process.
- **Amy Torres**, Chinese-American Planning Council
- > Registering 250 new voters for the 2016 presidential election, and educating a whole community on the value of their vote and their voice.
- **Gwendolyn Wilson**, Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement

VOTER REGISTRATION

UNH held two voter registration trainings in partnership with Community Votes to help settlement house staff devise strategies for leveraging their communities' voice at the ballot box. Participants learned how to design non-partisan voter registration drives and shared ideas for encouraging more of their neighbors to vote. Since the training, participants have successfully registered new voters, and one participant even arranged a partnership with a neighborhood nail salon where clients are asked if they are registered to vote, and non-registered voters are referred to their local settlement house to sign up.



Youth of all ages find pathways to success through settlement houses. In 2016, **UNH** supported young New Yorkers inside and outside the classroom.

Preparing Tomorrow's Youth Leaders

YOUTH ACTION DAY

2016 marked the 17th annual Youth Action Day, an event organized by UNH as the leader of the Campaign for Summer Jobs, More than 300 teens were trained in advocacy by UNH and traveled by bus to Albany with a clear message for the State legislators they met with in more than 100 meetings: the Summer Youth Employment Program provides invaluable experiences and paid jobs for young people. and with enormous demand but limited space, lawmakers must increase funding. Youth Action Day offers teens the educational tools to advocate for themselves and stand up for opportunities that lead to a brighter future for themselves and their communities.





ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS

In fostering future community leaders, UNH supports The After School Conservation Club and Harbor Camp, two programs that teach young people about the science of and care for the environment. For the After School Conservation Club, the New York State Department of Environmental Protection trains settlement house



staff to provide environmental education and activities to children in afterschool programs. In 2016, more than 800 children from 13 settlement houses participated in the program. Harbor Camp brought nearly 3,000 children from 16 UNH member organizations on water-related educational trips including a ride on the Clipper City schooner and a visit to the Intrepid Museum.

COLLEGE COMPLETION SUPPORT

In recognition that education is a key to success, and that obtaining a college degree is challenging for many students, including settlement house participants who are often the first in their families to attend college, UNH provides:

> Care Packages. Statistics show that 89% of low-income first-generation students leave college within six years without a degree. In support of the college aspirations of students from our member settlement houses, UNH's Junior Board sent care packages to 85 college students during finals. The GradBag Campaign filled packages with dorm necessities, snacks, and school supplies. Each package included a note from the Junior Board as well as from the students' college counselor urging them to keep up their hard work and reminding them of the contact information of the settlement house back home. The care packages encourage students to stay in touch with their settlement house support network, in an effort to



Karisma Sanmiguel Smith, who plans to attend SUNY Broome Community College, holds her Viacom Scholarship certificate.

prevent a crisis related to academic, financial, or social issues.

> Viacom Scholarships. UNH offers extraordinary students participating in settlement house college prep programs a scholarship in partnership with Viacom. Recipients are exceptional high school seniors, including class valedictorians, volunteer mentors, high school musical stars, and community activists. In 2016, UNH was proud to present the scholarship to nine impressive high school seniors nominated by their settlement houses. These college-bound students stood out for their efforts to promote social change and service in their communities.

UNH was proud to connect corporate partners to settlement houses in 2016. Their time. effort, and generosity provided scholarships to amazing youth, inspired kids to pursue their dreams, and alleviated some of the day-to-day challenges at settlement houses.

Community Partners

CITI

In summer 2016, 40 students from UNH member organizations gathered at Citi Field for Mets games, experiencing VIP treatment when they joined the Mets on the field for batting practice. Many of the children who attended the games had never been to a professional baseball game, despite some having grown up in the shadow of Citi Field. Thank you, Citi!



VIACOM

As a valued corporate partner, Viacom participated in three service days with settlement houses in 2016. Through UNH's partnership, Viacom staff members served lunch to older adults at Greenwich House for Valentine's Day and again over the winter holidays. They gave each older adult gifts of a warm hat and gloves, sweet home-baked treats, and fresh fruit. In addition, several settlement houses participated in Viacom's national Viacommunity service day, as volunteers painted, gardened, and organized during a full day of giving back.

SEATS OF DREAMS

Thanks to Seats of Dreams, nearly 200 youth from UNH settlement houses were given tickets to sports games, concerts, plays, and attractions. Many of these kids would not have the means to attend otherwise. Some of the events included Yankees games, the New York Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall, the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir, and Big Bad Voodoo Daddy. UNH is thrilled to have this partnership with Seats of Dreams!





IBM

For large organizations offering a myriad of services to varying populations, data collection and tracking can be a daunting task for settlement houses. To support our members in this effort, UNH has partnered with IBM to offer the SafetyNet system, a cloud-based, open-source application designed to consolidate fragmented data sources into one comprehensive system. UNH provides participating members with technical assistance for the implementation and use of this robust data management and reporting system. The results for our members are increased efficiency in data collection, improved capacity for assessing program impact, identifying gaps in services, and attracting new resources and funding. This work is ongoing, with additional settlement houses beginning their implementation of the SafetvNet system in 2017.

YOUNG DANCEMAKERS

For nearly 20 years, UNH has partnered with Young Dancemakers
Company to send settlement house youth to a dance performance. In 2016, more than 700 youth attended this free performance of original dances created and performed by New York City teens. Following the performance, the youth participated in creating a dance with the performers!

UNH Network By the Numbers



SETTLEMENT HOUSES RECOGNIZED AS A TREASURE OF NEW YORK

UNH was proud to be recognized by THIRTEEN and WLIW21 in the documentary "Treasures of New York: Settlement Houses."

This one-hour film explores the 130-year history of settlement houses in New York City and features several UNH member organizations as well as an interview with UNH Executive Director Susan Stamler. Through archival photos, current stories, and interviews with participants, staff, and officials, this film explains how settlement houses have adapted to the changing City to remain vibrant and vital throughout the years.



"One of the **keys**" to the survival of settlement houses has been and continues to be their close relationship to the communities in which they work."

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Members of the Founders Society have named UNH as the beneficiary of a planned gift, such as a bequest in a will or as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement plan.

Paul F. Balser

Alain Kodsi and Bachel Foster

Lew Kramer

David and Audrey Kubie

Ann L. Marcus

Arthur Stainman

Mary Elizabeth Taylor

Nancy Wackstein

2016 Financials

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES, DECEMBER 31, 2016

(Selected Financial Data)

SUPPORT, REVENUE AND GAINS	
Foundation Grants and Other Contributions	\$ 2,541,977
Investment Income	\$ 660,941
Membership Dues	\$ 349,750
Other Income	\$ 4,595
Total Support, Revenue and Gains	\$ 3,557,263
EXPENSES	
Program Services:	
Member Agency Support	\$ 115,738
Policy and Public Education	\$ 706,804
Member Services	\$ 1,502,387
Total Program Services	\$ 2,324,929
Management and General	\$ 464,996
Fundraising	\$ 531,385
Total Expenses	\$ 3,321,310
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 235,953

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(Selected Financial Data)

ASSETS	
Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments	\$ 8,633,196
Other Assets	\$ 558,395
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 9,191,591
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
General Liabilities	\$ 209,273
Net Assets:	
Unrestricted	\$ 8,387,649
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 494,669
Permanently Restricted	\$ 100,000
Total Net Assets	\$ 8,982,318
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 9,191,591

Staff

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Susan Stamler
Executive Director

Lynn Appelbaum

Deputy Executive Director

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Maria Longo Director, Finance and Administration

Madeline Santiago Administrative Assistant

Abigail Torres
Administrative Assistant

DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

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Director of Development

Lindsay Perry
Senior Communications Associate

 ${\it Jennifer Velasquez} \\ {\it Senior Development Associate} \\$

Kasey Williamson

Development and Communications

Associate



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Director of Member Services

Sue Fox ReServist

Latoya Leslie
Member Services Associate/SafetyNet
Project Coordinator

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

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Co-Director of Policy and Advocacy

Kevin Douglas Co-Director of Policy and Advocacy

Lena Cohen
Civic Engagement Associate

Nora Moran Senior Policy Analyst

SPECIAL PROJECTS

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Judith Harrison Encore Fellow

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Executive Director Emerita

SETTLEMENT HOUSE CRAWL

UNH was proud to bring board members and staff to two member organizations on a "settlement house crawl."

At United Community Centers, we saw a unique building bustling with early childhood education classrooms and toured the expansive garden which produces fresh fruit, vegetables, and honey sold at their farmer's market.

At St. Nicks Alliance, UNH Board Members greeted a large group of older adults having lunch and children in childcare classrooms before climbing onto the BK Story Voyager, a library on wheels.



Strengthened 38 settlement houses. Improved the lives of more than 750,000 New Yorkers. Saved summer camp for **26,000 children**. Brought 300 youth to Albany to lobby for the Summer Youth Employment Program. Trained 58 settlement house staff members in civic engagement. Sent care packages to 85 firstgeneration college students.



United Neighborhood Houses of New York 45 Broadway, 22nd Floor New York, NY 10006 212-967-0322 · www.unhny.org

Executive Director, Susan Stamler





