



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



**M**ore than any other year in recent memory, 2017 was marked by tremendous change. Many of our participants are facing tough questions about their futures: what will they do if they can no longer afford childcare? Will they be able to stave off homelessness if their rent rises? How will they feed their family if they lose access to the benefits that keep them food secure?

University Settlement works with some of New York City's most vulnerable people, including the very youngest children,

the elderly, immigrants, and low-income families. In especially turbulent times, we feel our responsibility to our neighbors even more keenly.

We believe that by working alongside our participants, we can make sure every New Yorker has the opportunity to lead a successful, healthy, and joyous life. As partners, our job is to offer effective solutions to challenges that can easily derail this goal.

In 2017, we:

- Expanded our eviction prevention program in partnership with the New York City Housing Authority in an effort to keep more people from the shelter door.
- Helped secure an additional \$23 million city wide for senior services to strengthen the safety net for NYC's growing older adults population.
- Built up mental health supports in our youth programming to keep children out of the juvenile justice and foster care systems, funded by a major, multi-year grant from the Manhattan District Attorney's office.

- Expanded our Early Head Start program into Brooklyn, complete with integrated mental health screenings, so low-income children can build a stronger foundation for their future.

The hallmark of our work is to empower individuals and communities to reach their goals. You'll hear more about this from Melissa Aase in the next pages.

Please know that this kind of on-the-ground, responsive work can't be done without the good will and support of people like you who understand and value our unique model.

In this spirit of partnership, I thank you for standing with us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Eric Weingartner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and "W".

**Eric Weingartner**  
Chief Executive Officer



# JOSE

AGE  
77

Marine Corps veteran Jose is a long-time resident of the Lower East Side. For more than 50 years, he's lived near our headquarters on Eldridge Street. He retired in 2002 after 39 years of working at the historic Ratner's Deli, taking up the habit of a daily walk through the neighborhood he calls home. But adjusting to retirement was harder than Jose expected.

28% OF PEOPLE AGES 65+ LIVE ALONE, INCREASING THEIR RISK OF MORTALITY, POOR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, AND QUICKER COGNITIVE DECLINE.



Jose worked long hours for most of his life. With new time on his hands, he was more aware than ever that he lived alone. "It was hard for me — I didn't have a place to go, and I started to feel depressed." A friend convinced Jose to join him for lunch at one of our older adult centers. He's been coming almost daily for the 16 years since.

"I've lived here, worked here, for so long. I want to get to know everyone." Most days, Jose comes in for lunch after his morning stroll. It's not long before he's playing a game of cards, or signing up for the next trip to a museum. He wants to see and do it all.



With his love of the neighborhood and his drive to keep busy, Jose is also the first to sign up to volunteer — everything from rolling silverware for dinner, to making phone calls to city hall to protect funding for older adults programs. He wants to give back and make sure others have the same opportunities he has. "I know I live a better life since I came here."

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**T**he people who launched University Settlement more than 130 years ago pushed the edge. They were original thinkers and passionate activists who set out to change the world.

They challenged prevailing assumptions and stereotypes about immigrants and those living in poverty — and they did it by building relationships based on trust and respect, and with the knowledge that good solutions come from within communities. By partnering directly with those we wanted to empower, we knew we'd have the strongest impact.

One of my greatest priorities as Executive Director is to renew that spirit of making great changes — especially in the face of adversity.

Our historic headquarters were built on the Lower East Side for a reason. It's where immigrants and low-income families launched their lives for generations. And just as they continued to strive for more, they encountered tremendous obstacles: substandard housing, barriers to health care and education, and challenges to obtaining a living wage job.

Sound familiar?

- In New York City today, nearly half a million people live in public housing that is poorly maintained. Countless live with black mold, or without heat.
- 21% of new New Yorkers meet serious obstacles to earning a living wage or caring for their children that could be overcome with English classes.
- 20% of adults over 60 live in poverty. Without a steady income, they face difficult choices that can impact their health and safety.

At University Settlement, we don't just create expert programming that helps address these crises in the short term.

We lead the charge to create permanent change:

- Not only did we expand our eviction prevention program, but we also led efforts to pass the 2017 Right to Counsel law ensuring free access to legal representation for low-income New Yorkers in Housing Court.
- 450 adults learned spoken and written English in our classes. Many led the charge in Albany and NYC to pressure our legislators to increase funding to match the huge demand for adult literacy.
- 2,100 older adults came into our centers last year to eat, learn new skills, access mental health care, and connect with their community — a number we plan to increase in the years ahead now that we helped secure an additional \$23 million city wide for senior services.

But none of this is possible without you. Your partnership is essential to helping us provide solutions and fight for a brighter future — for everyone.

Thank you for your support,

**Melissa E. Aase**  
Executive Director





## JANICE LEE & STUART SHAPIRO

### SUPPORTERS

A lot can change in 30 years — especially in a bustling city like New York. Janice Lee and Stuart Shapiro have firsthand experience as New Yorkers. They've also had a close up view of the resiliency of people and neighborhoods, thanks to their three decades of involvement with University Settlement.

Janice served on the Board of Directors for many years, including as Board President through the 80s and 90s. Now she's proud to serve on the Honorary Board, and both she and Stuart are active supporters of our work.

"When I was little, I was raised to believe in service. It wasn't something you discussed, you just took care of others. And University Settlement embodies that value, even as our society's values change," Janice explains.

As longtime residents of the city, they've seen the community evolve — and shared the concern many have as the Lower East Side rapidly gentrifies. Janice appreciates that University Settlement faces this issue head on, and she proudly recalls the fight to open the Houston Street Center.

"Decades of work went into making sure that an affordable community resource would be there. Staking out a place in that landscape was tenacious and powerful. Every time I walk through Chinatown, I'm proud that we're there."

What speaks most to Janice, though, is the organization's ability to adapt with its participants while remaining a steady force of change. "It can be easy to overlook people who are going through major transitions in life, people who are just trying to get their feet on the ground and make their way. But to know that University Settlement is there for them is truly meaningful to me."

“UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT HAS A MODEL THAT IS EXEMPLARY FOR OTHERS, ESPECIALLY AS THE ORGANIZATION EXPANDS ITS WORK IN SMART AND VALUABLE WAYS.”

# A REVOLUTIONARY APPROACH OF WORKING WITH FAMILIES

IN 2017

40,000

people of all ages  
were impacted by our  
expert programming.



662  
people visited our mental  
health clinic for  
11,000  
SESSIONS.

86-98%

of children in our early  
childhood classrooms were  
school ready.

1,600

family members came to us  
with housing stability  
challenges and to prevent  
homelessness.

31

locations operated in  
Manhattan and Brooklyn.

1,700

people of all ages  
accessed affordable  
mental health care  
embedded in our other  
programs.



100%

of parents in our support  
group felt more confident  
supporting their child's early  
developmental success.

95%

of families avoided eviction  
or addressed early causes  
of housing insecurity.

1,500

children ages 0-5 relied  
on our early childhood  
programs — including child  
care, head start, pre-k,  
and more.





# AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO ADVANCE THEIR GOALS.

5,200

children and young adults participated in our youth development programs.

2,100

adults over the age of 60 came to our four senior centers.

450

adult students learned spoken and written English.



7,000

audience members saw more than 85 artists' performances.

61%

of our East Flatbush students improved their reading level by at least one grade.

50%

of our older adults have been coming for

10+ YEARS.



94%

of our adult literacy students achieved at least one of their goals of advancing their career or education.



23,000

fitness classes and 364 arts classes were offered in painting, photography, yoga, tai chi, and more at our senior centers.

70%

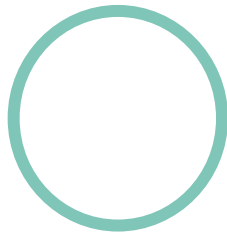
of adult literacy students measurably improved their proficiency.



21,000

people with chronic illnesses connected to the healing power of the arts through bedside instruction at 30 hospitals.

# OUR FAMILY TABLE



whopping success.

Guests entered the industrial space of Skylight Clarkson Sq and were whisked through a miniature cityscape, complete with stoplights, park benches, a construction wall for graffiti, and more. They were also treated to delectable food, specialty cocktails from **Michter's Distillery**, and fine champagne from **Champagne Henriot**.

Our 4th annual Our Family Table gala – benefiting our organization and our partners, The Door and Broome Street Academy – was a

Our evening's emcee was WABC-TV anchor Michelle Charlesworth, with remarks from Chief Executive Officer Eric Weingartner and Executive Director Melissa Aase.

Performances from our participants kicked off and finished the program, showcasing our shared passion for the arts. Guests also heard from two of our participants – Angel Sacarello of University Settlement and Solange Deschamps of The Door – as they shared stirring testimonials about their personal journeys.

Our 2017 Changemaker Awards went to three distinguished honorees: **JPMorgan Chase & Co.** for their commitment to creating equal opportunity for New Yorkers

and others around the world; **Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr.** for his commitment to social justice and the betterment of New York City; and creator of Humans of New York **Brandon Stanton** for his humanitarian spirit and innovative efforts to tell the stories of all New Yorkers. More than 500 of our closest friends joined us for this fun-filled, inspiring night – more than any of our previous years! Together, we raised more than \$1 million to support our work with New Yorkers.

We'd like to thank the sponsors, donors, and event committee for making the evening the toast of the town. We look forward to celebrating with you at our next event soon!

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# LATOYA

AGE  
35

A large photograph of Latoya, a woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a black jacket, smiling and holding a young child. Another child is standing in front of her. They are outdoors in front of a colorful mural on a brick wall.

Brooklynite Latoya has her hands full. Juggling her time with Jeremiah (6), Julian (4), and Lashay (2) can be a challenge. For her, making a decision about the right child care center for her kids was about giving her children nurturing opportunities. She knew that getting a strong start early on is the foundation for a brighter future.

HIGH-QUALITY **EARLY CHILDHOOD** EDUCATION  
REDUCES GAPS IN SCHOOL READINESS AND IMPROVES  
LEARNING OUTCOMES – BUT THE HIGH COST REPRESENTS  
A SIGNIFICANT BARRIER FOR MANY FAMILIES.

Having access to a quality education was key, as was having a strong support system — one she found in our staff. They connected her to more resources for Julian after determining that he had a speech delay. “They were giving me encouragement and confidence to make the right decisions for his education.” Most importantly, the school — its staff, its other parents, its children — has been a welcoming community for her.



A year ago, her oldest son had to be hospitalized after he was attacked by dogs. Beyond the many procedures needed to help him heal, the incident was very traumatizing for Jeremiah, his siblings, and Latoya. “The staff supported me with that, they were there for all of us. Not just Jeremiah, but our whole family. They are helping us get through it.”

“At Children’s Corner, they will help you get the answers to any question you have. It doesn’t matter if your child is still there or has moved up. It’s a comfort to me.” Her youngest recently turned two and is about to start her time at Children’s Corner. Latoya says there’s no question for her that it’s where her family belongs.



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NYC Department of Youth &  
Community Development  
NYC Department for the Aging  
NYC Department of Health &  
Mental Hygiene  
NYC Housing Preservation &  
Development  
NYS Mayor's Fund  
NYS Council on the Arts  
NYS Department of Health  
NYS Department of Education  
NYS Office of Children &  
Family Services  
NYS Office of Court Administration  
NYS Office of Mental Health  
NYS Governor's Office of  
Storm Recovery  
US Department of Agriculture  
US Department of Education  
US Department of Health &  
Human Services  
US Department of Housing &  
Urban Development  
US Federal Emergency  
Management Assistance  
US National Endowment for the Arts

# DANIEL

AGE  
12

Daniel is your average young teen — he loves to play video games, surf around on YouTube, and play with nerf guns with his friends. He has a big imagination and likes building new inventions. He lives with his dad in Chinatown with no older siblings. His dad found himself in a predicament many parents face: where can children go when school is out?

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS HAVE A PROVEN TRACK RECORD OF IMPROVING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN SCHOOL, INCLUDING BETTER TEST SCORES AND ATTENDANCE, AS WELL AS REDUCING BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS.



Daniel has been coming to our after-school program at the Houston Street Center for two years. At first, Daniel was shy and kept to himself. Over a few short months, he made new friends and gained confidence. Art Club was his favorite until he discovered Technology Club — a growing passion of his.

"We learn to blog, make videos. We just finished coding our own video games, which is so cool." Beyond building his tech skills, Daniel is also getting ready to start our high school prep program at the center. He admits he's still nervous about 9th grade, but less than before with our staff at his side.



For Daniel, being in after-school is a fun way to pass the time before his dad is done working — to make new friends, have adventures, and learn new things. For his dad, it's something bigger: "Besides having him in a safe, secure place, I've noticed he has matured. From being sheltered at home to getting to interact with peers, learning teamwork. I appreciate all that University Settlement has given to Daniel and all the kids."

# OUR FINANCIAL REPORT

## Balance Sheet

Years Ending June 30	2017	2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 876,243	\$ 495,661
Investments	3,399,147	3,035,947
Government grants & contracts receivable	5,264,900	5,176,502
Pledges receivable	1,401,161	474,500
Prepaid and other assets	248,293	349,948
Land, buildings and equipment, net	25,737,940	26,259,837
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 36,927,684</b>	<b>\$ 35,792,395</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accrued vacation	\$ 514,417	\$ 482,692
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	2,010,931	1,711,779
Advances under government grants	395,965	456,880
Amounts held on behalf of others	88,684	92,848
Deferred income	984	47,025
Due to related party†	1,000,000	1,000,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 4,010,981</b>	<b>\$ 3,791,224</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted: Undesignated for general use	\$ 1,040,201	\$ 503,504
Unrestricted: Creative Center general use	332,915	327,348
Unrestricted: Park Slope general use	753,352	753,352
Unrestricted: Board designated	395,334	395,334
Unrestricted: Net investment in fixed assets	25,737,940	26,259,837
Temporarily restricted	2,585,154	1,689,989
Permanently restricted	2,071,807	2,071,807
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 32,916,703</b>	<b>\$ 32,001,171</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 36,927,684</b>	<b>\$ 35,792,395</b>

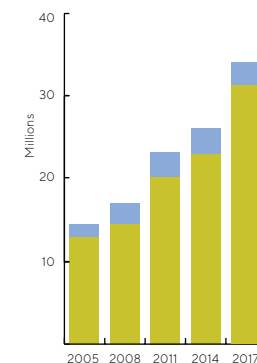
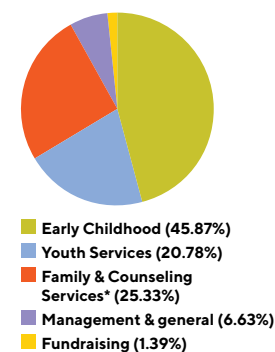
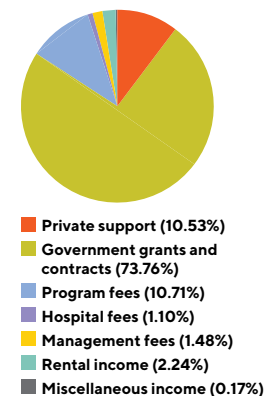
†On June 24, 2016, University Settlement received from The Door an interest free loan of \$1,000,000 to cover end of the year regular expenses. The loan was repaid in February 2017. On June 26, 2017, The Door made another interest free loan in the amount of \$1,000,000 to the Settlement to cover end of the year regular expenses.

## Statement of Activities

Years Ending June 30	2017	2016
<b>SUPPORT &amp; REVENUES</b>		
Private support (individuals, corporations & foundations)	\$ 3,730,498	\$ 2,804,980
Government grants and contracts	26,123,782	25,588,590
Program fees	3,793,931	3,839,073
Hospital fees	389,631	363,419
Management fees	524,700	499,710
Rental income	792,902	695,246
Miscellaneous income	61,361	67,468
<b>Total Operating Support &amp; Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 35,416,805</b>	<b>\$ 33,858,486</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Program Services</b>		
Early Childhood	\$ 16,019,727	\$ 16,020,135
Youth Services	7,258,886	7,003,912
Family & Counseling Services*	8,847,749	8,571,791
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$ 32,126,362</b>	<b>\$ 31,595,838</b>
<b>Supporting Services</b>		
Management & general	\$ 2,315,744	\$ 2,668,143
Fundraising	485,655	374,494
<b>Total Supporting Services</b>	<b>2,801,399</b>	<b>3,042,637</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 34,927,761</b>	<b>\$ 34,638,475</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES</b>		
Park Slope contribution	\$ —	\$ 7,036,152
Investment income	426,488	(153,725)
<b>Total Non-Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 426,488</b>	<b>\$ 6,882,427</b>
Change in net assets**	\$ 915,532	\$ 6,102,438
Net assets, beginning of year	32,001,171	25,898,733
<b>Net Assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 32,916,703</b>	<b>\$ 32,001,171</b>

\*In addition to all mental health services, Family and Counseling Services program expenses include the Performance Project, Adult Literacy, Project Home, Older Adults, the Houston Street Community Center, and the Creative Center.

\*\*Net of depreciation



**Historical Growth**  
 ■ Programs  
 ■ Administration





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CK Zheng

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