



NEWS RELEASE

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Laura McGinley joins University Settlement as Chief External Relations Officer

New York, NY - University Settlement has hired Laura McGinley as its new Chief External Relations Officer, the NYC social justice agency announced today.

Reporting to CEO Melissa Aase, McGinley will lead the Settlement's Development teams focused on Institutional and Individual Giving, as well as its Marketing and Communications efforts. Her first day with the agency will be November 15, 2021.

The appointment comes as part of an ongoing reorganization at University Settlement, as the agency unwinds its 20-year operational relationship with The Door. McGinley, who was previously Senior Director of Development at Uncommon Schools, will be responsible for leading engagement with partners and supporters, setting the organization's strategic fundraising and communications priorities, and raising its public profile.

"University Settlement represents New York City at its very best, and I am thrilled to join an institution that builds on 135 years of innovation by creating powerful connections with neighbors on the Lower East Side and Brooklyn every day," said **Laura McGinley**. "Growing philanthropy and our audiences are both essential to ensuring the Settlement's continued strength, and I'm excited to partner with Melissa and staff across the agency as we continue to share our story with the communities who engage with our work."

"Laura's terrific depth of experience in growing philanthropy, communications, and development programs will serve University Settlement well," said **Melissa Aase, CEO of University Settlement**. "She's passionate about our work and the opportunity we have to create new and deeper connections with people who care about the strength of our communities, and I'm looking forward to partnering with her to do just that."

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About University Settlement

University Settlement partners with 40,000 New Yorkers on the Lower East Side and in Brooklyn every year to build on their strengths as they achieve healthy, stable, and remarkable lives. For over 130 years, we've collaborated with our neighbors to pioneer highly effective programs that fight poverty and systemic inequality. Established in 1886 as the first Settlement House in the United States, we bring the values of that movement into the 21st century by meeting New Yorkers where they live, listening deeply to all perspectives, engaging with every individual holistically, and creating space for people to organize. Joining together with our neighbors to advocate for justice and equality, we help build community strength.

We work with New Yorkers of all ages. We infuse a commitment to civic engagement, equity, and communal action into each of our programs, which include early childhood education, mental health and wellness, benefits assistance and eviction prevention, adult literacy and education, healthy aging, community and recreation centers, performing and visual arts, and youth development.

Learn more at www.universitysettlement.org.