

UNIVERSITY
is
SETTLEMENT

A PLACE TO GROW



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

In every interaction we have with our neighbors—every counseling session, every ballroom dance class, every housing court appearance, every language lesson, every voter registration drive—we are building on strengths and supporting growth.

In our work, as in the world, growth means many things. Our children grow by learning, and our neighborhoods grow when they become more inclusive and more resilient. Likewise, we grow as an organization when we build our capacity and measurable impact.

Every New Yorker should have a safe and vibrant city where we can create good lives.

That's why University Settlement is **A Place to Grow**.

—Melissa Aase



University Settlement forges partnerships between neighbors on the Lower East Side and in Brooklyn, engaging more than 40,000 New Yorkers in efforts to build stronger communities every year.



OUR INTEGRATED PROGRAMS

University Settlement is One House—at each of our locations, our teams are able to connect our neighbors with every program and service across our network.

We engage our neighbors where they live and are guided by local priorities—evolving thoughtfully as we listen and learn. Our programs are available in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, and other languages our neighbors speak.

We prioritize resources toward people in the most vulnerable situations, to ensure that all people in our communities have access to basic rights, necessities, and opportunities, while centering civic engagement, relationship-building, advocacy, and the arts.

Early Childhood

**Mental Health +
Wellness**

Older Adults

**Adult English
Classes**

**Youth Development +
Community Centers**

**Housing + Financial
Stability**

Arts

**Advocacy +
Community Action**

Established in 1886 as the first Settlement House in the United States, we bring the values of that movement into the 21st century by:

- Fighting poverty and systemic inequality with responsive programs and advocacy;
- Engaging all members of the community from newborns to elders;
- Joyfully nurturing the whole person by addressing basic needs including food, education, culture, learning, and community.



**We operate 30+ sites
in the LES and Brooklyn.**

SOME DOORS INTO OUR HOUSE

1) 184 Eldridge

Our historic headquarters is always evolving in response to our community; it's where we launched our newest program, Family and Youth Peer Support services, which helped more than 190 asylum seekers connect to NYC social services in 2022.



2) SDR Park

With our community connections and spaces in need of some love, we launched ROAR: Rejoice! Organize! Activate! Reclaim!, which brought more than 200 hours of free programming to the heart of Chinatown and the LES.



3) East Side Community High School

Our Beacon program engages students, caregivers, teachers, and neighbors to build a safe, fun, purpose-driven environment where our young people develop their own interests and take part in building their own community.



4) Houston Street Center

Five innovative programs call our flexible space at 273 Bowery home, serving older adults seeking to remain active, children and young people with differing abilities and their families who are seeking community, middle schoolers taking their first steps toward college, community groups looking for space to meet, and more!



5) Cornerstone @ Atlantic Terminal

The magnetic center of community at Atlantic Terminal Houses offers programs that enrich the individual and community, including after-school and summer camp for children 5-12, sports and arts programs for teens, wellness groups for adults, and the Intergenerational Community Arts Council (ICAC).



6) Children's Corner

Responding to the mental health crisis for young children and families in our communities, in 2022 our early childhood mental health program Butterflies sought and received the largest single year private gift in our history from Robin Hood, allowing us to further integrate mental health supports into all our classrooms, including here, one of our four early childhood centers.



Legend

● All-Ages Comprehensive Programming

● Early Childhood Programming

● Youth Programming

● Older Adults Programming

Early Childhood

Our early childhood education programs work to narrow the opportunity gap, spark the imaginations of more than 600 young learners in our neighborhoods, and ensure that every child is prepared for kindergarten and beyond.

"Ensuring that children will be prepared for long-term academic, social, and emotional success is one of our primary goals. Recently, our assessments identified that children in our programs were not doing as well as we'd like on a certain dimension of social-emotional learning. We invited the creators of that assessment to come in and conduct a two-day training with our teachers to better support that area of development, and when we measured our children's scores again, they improved."

—Angelica Bravo, Director of Data, Evaluation, and Learning



Mental Health + Wellness

Mental health services can be hard to find and harder to afford, and these challenges are compounded by poverty and societal inequity. We partner with nearly 1,900 individuals and families in our neighborhoods to respond to the challenges life presents, offering high-quality care from culturally sensitive professionals.

Families Thriving offers approachable mental health and wellness supports that meet people where they are. In 2022 we expanded the program into 11 additional schools in Lower Manhattan's District 1, making its services available to 2,675 additional students thanks to support from Trinity Church Wall Street. Collaborations between a community-based organization, a school district, and a philanthropy are rare, but we hope this one will serve as a national model for quickly making a difference in the well-being of a community.



Older Adults

Adults over 60 are the fastest-growing group of New Yorkers, and we engage more than 1,100 of our aging neighbors in a thoughtful range of social and recreational activities that promote longevity and well-being through education, art, recreation, and nutrition.

"Our team is empowered by the belief that older people are not a burden—like all of us, our older neighbors have lots of potential and contributions to make."

—Bing Ji, Director, Wellness Together



Adult English Classes

Every year, more than 350 immigrant adults join us to build language, civic literacy, and technology skills they use to gain employment, pursue further education, understand and exercise legal rights and responsibilities, obtain U.S. citizenship, and otherwise participate in their communities.

"This program has been amazing for me. I've been learning a lot about how native speakers talk, and I'm starting to get what they mean. We have great teachers, who always try to help us, and the classes are very organized. It's been really helpful for my day-to-day life and at work."

—Peter, Adult Literacy Program participant from Brazil

Youth Development + Community Centers

We partner with more than 3,000 young people annually to create safe, fun, purpose-driven environments where they can begin building their futures.

"Partnering with organizations like BioBus brings trained scientists and educators into our communities. It makes science accessible and fun, something to look forward to. We're trying to expose our young people to new ideas, hoping that they'll get excited and want to learn more, and even consider careers in STEM."

—Greg Robertson, Senior Director, Youth & Community Programs, Manhattan

Housing + Financial Stability

We combat homelessness by partnering with our neighbors to identify financial problems and solve them before they lead to eviction, securing more stable housing for more than 1,500 New Yorkers last year.

"I'm fighting with my landlord just to have the heat turned on right. Having an advocate like my social worker Sonia is incredibly valuable in that situation. If I wasn't in touch with your organization, my life would be more hectic. I would feel a bit less security. All the help I've gotten with University Settlement has been extraordinary. I have people who I can count on. It's the kind of thing humanity needs."

—Charles F., Wellness Together participant



Arts

Art-making is fundamental to human thriving, just like nutrition and education, and we are committed to making sure that thousands of our neighbors can participate in free or low-cost art activities as a central aspect of our mission.

"As you age in New York, it can be difficult to connect with people and find social opportunities that still engage you in your passions. Viewing art in person together can be powerfully communal. Our participants are interested in complex ideas and looking for opportunities to have conversations about challenging topics, and to relate these ideas back to their own art-making. It can provide a positive distraction from their experiences of illness, and that's very powerful."

—Liz Rubel, Hospital Artist-In-Residence Program Manager, and Programs & Partnerships Coordinator, The Creative Center @ University Settlement



In 2022,

930

patients received arts instruction at their hospital beds through The Creative Center

Advocacy + Community Action

Community action is at the heart of University Settlement's mission—throughout our history, we have partnered with our neighbors in efforts to create a fairer society.

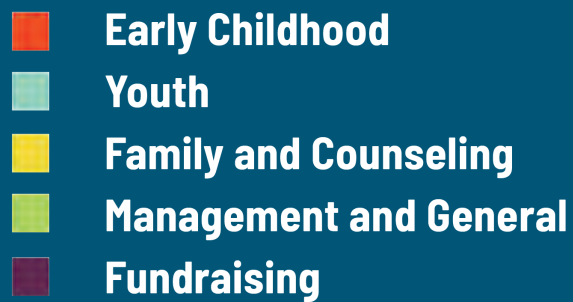
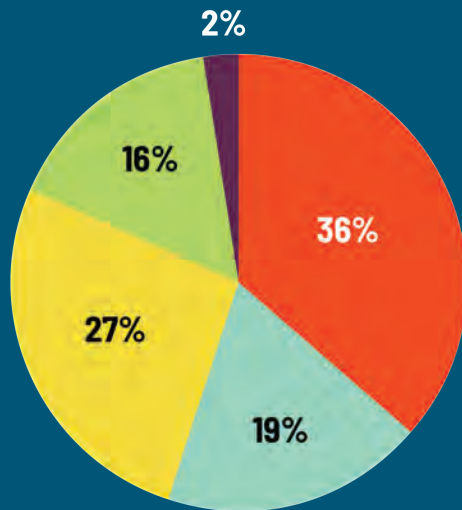
Through advocacy, we secure access to resources for thousands of our neighbors, supporting policies that help build a more sustainable, resilient, equitable New York City.



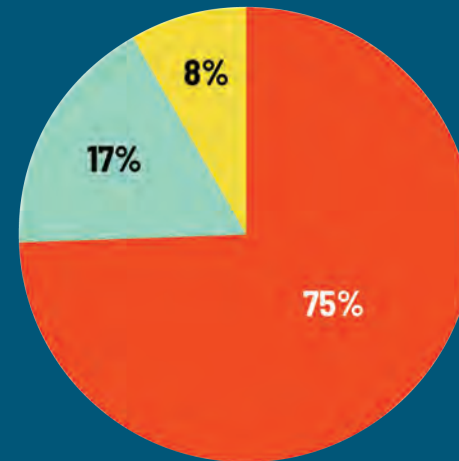
OUR FINANCIALS

Our budget in FY22 was \$44 million.

HOW OUR BUDGET BREAKS DOWN BY PROGRAM



HOW WE'RE FUNDED



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MAKE A GIFT TODAY

UniversitySettlement.org/Donate



Charity Navigator names University Settlement as a Four-Star Charity—their highest rating—based on our financial stability, efficiency, sustainability, and our commitment to strong governance practices and policies.

184 Eldridge Street, New York, NY 10002

T: 212.453.4500

E: info@universitysettlement.org

FB: [@UniversitySettlement](https://www.facebook.com/UniversitySettlement)

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