

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## UNION SETTLEMENT ASSOCIATION HONORS SHAUN OSHER, FOUNDER & CEO OF CORE AND ROBERT F. QUAINTANCE, RETIRED PARTNER OF DEBEVOISE & PLIMPTON LLP

Annual "Solutions Benefit" Fundraiser Celebrates 50 Years of College Readiness Programs From East Harlem's Oldest and Largest Social Services Provider

Wednesday, April 30, 2014, at Guastavino's (409 East 59th Street)

New York City – [April 30, 2014] – <u>Union Settlement Association</u>, East Harlem's oldest and largest social service provider, will honor Shaun Osher, founder & CEO of <u>CORE</u>; Robert F. Quaintance, retired partner of <u>Debevoise & Plimpton LLP</u>; along with law firm partner <u>Bryan Cave</u> and corporate partner <u>Morgan Stanley</u>; tonight at the organization's annual "Solutions Benefit" fundraising gala held at Guastavino's (East 59th Street between First and York Avenues). Event-goers will also welcome to the podium <u>New York City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito</u> as a distinguished guest and speaker. This year's gala—which promises to bring together hundreds of New York City's business and community leaders, elected officials, and honored guests to support Union Settlement's mission—will shine a spotlight on the venerable East Harlem organization's 50 years of college readiness programs.

"Going to college is a proven pathway to greater opportunity, and Union Settlement's range of college readiness programs has been an integral part of our offering for half a century," said David Nocenti, Executive Director of Union Settlement. "We are especially pleased tonight to honor Shaun and Robert for the invaluable contributions they make to the city we love and the vibrant neighborhood of East Harlem."

With a rich history as one of the great cultural bastions of New York City, East Harlem is a vibrant and unique neighborhood—but it is also one of the very poorest communities in the nation. Focusing on college readiness and youth development services, Union Settlement offers inspiring facts and solutions to consider.

- **FACT:** The national dropout rate for low-income high school students is five times greater than that of high-income students.
- **SOLUTION:** 98% of students in our College Readiness Program graduate from high school and 83% continue on to college in the fall.
- FACT: Teen pregnancy and STD rates in East Harlem are among the highest in New York City.
- **SOLUTION:** 100% of students who completed our pregnancy prevention program reached the age of 18 without becoming pregnant.

- **FACT:** In East Harlem health disparities are alarmingly high and one quarter of children are obese.
- **SOLUTION:** We provide hundreds of children ages two and up, their parents and siblings, with nutrition education, health screenings and physical activity programs.

## Honoring NYC Leaders in Public Service

Union Settlement will honor Shaun Osher for his leadership in the NYC real estate industry. Mr. Osher is the founder and CEO of CORE, a New York City-based real estate firm offering a comprehensive array of brokerage and marketing services for luxury residential properties. Under his leadership, CORE has become the top boutique brokerage representing some of the finest new developments and highest-valued resale properties in the city. One of New York's most successful and respected agents, Shaun is widely known in the real estate community as a broker's broker, with a keen understanding of the market and exceptional acumen for sales and negotiation.

In honoring Robert F. Quaintance, Union Settlement expresses its appreciation of his dedication as a key member of NYC's legal community. Mr. Quaintance, retired partner of <u>Debevoise & Plimpton LLP</u>, was a member of the firm's Mergers & Acquisitions, Private Equity, Corporate Governance and Securities Groups. Mr. Quaintance has handled a number of significant domestic and international M&A transactions, including public and private acquisitions, divestitures and joint ventures, and also has extensive experience in debt and equity offerings. Union Settlement also recognizes his eighteen years of service on its Board of Directors, including four as Chair.

The support of Union Settlement's benefactors enables the organization to affect real change. Union Settlement gratefully acknowledges the support of Solutions Benefit Platinum Sponsor Morgan Stanley, Gold Sponsor Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, its corporate Silver Sponsor Popular Community Bank, and co-chairs Emily Beare, Sarah A. W. Fitts, and John Reichman.

## **About Union Settlement Association**

Union Settlement Association is an on-the-ground resource for East Harlem residents of all ages, and a passionate advocate for the needs of underserved communities. Since opening our doors in 1895, we have brought education, wellness and community-building programs to our neighborhood, empowering New Yorkers with opportunities to better their lives. By helping our neighbors realize their goals, we build the vitality and success of East Harlem. For more information visit <a href="https://www.unionsettlement.org">www.unionsettlement.org</a>.

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