

# UNION SETTLEMENT

## MEDIA RELEASE

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## **STATEMENT ON NEW YORK CITY 2016 BUDGET AGREEMENT**

New York City – [June 23, 2015] – “I applaud the budget agreement that the Mayor and City Council announced,” said David Nocenti, Executive Director of Union Settlement Association in East Harlem. “The increased funding for senior services, the bail fund, extending library hours and other initiatives definitely will benefit many residents of low-income communities like East Harlem.”

“Although the agreement provides some much-needed funding, one group has been left out again – the employees in City-funded nonprofit early childhood education centers,” stated Mr. Nocenti. “Our teachers and other staff have been working without a raise for over nine years, and are woefully underpaid compared to staff with the exact same qualifications in the public schools. It is time for the City to come to the bargaining table and provide the funding necessary to end this unequal treatment, which has persisted for far too long.”

### **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 its doors in 1895, we have brought education, wellness and community-building programs to the East Harlem community, empowering New Yorkers with opportunities to better their lives. More than 350 staff members work at the organization, and its services impact 10,000 people in our community every year. By helping its neighbors realize their goals, Union Settlement builds the vitality and success of East Harlem. For more information, visit [www.unionsettlement.org](http://www.unionsettlement.org).

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