NEW YORK – Union Settlement Association, the oldest and largest social service provider in East Harlem, today announced the appointment of Oilda Martinez to the position of Director of Adult Education. In this role, Ms. Martinez will oversee all of Union Settlement’s adult education services and programs, including English classes for Speakers of Other Languages, and Basic Education and High School Equivalency courses for English speakers and for Spanish speakers. In addition, the Adult Education program offers counseling and advocacy for young people eligible for DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) and an intensive job readiness program for individuals seeking to become Home Health Aides. Education is central to Union Settlement’s mission and role.

“We are delighted to have Oilda Martinez join our team,” said David Nocenti, Executive Director of Union Settlement. “She has tremendous experience and stature in the Adult Education field, and her expertise and dedication will be invaluable to the East Harlem community.”

“I feel very grateful to have the opportunity to be part of the Union Settlement team. I feel this is a great opportunity to give back to the community,” said Oilda Martinez.

With over three decades experience in the education and administrative fields, Ms. Martinez brings a multitude of knowledge managing a diverse range of education programs, with expertise in curriculum development and assessment, enrollment management, relationship building with key internal and external stakeholders, oversight of budget and revenue streams, supervision of faculty and staff across multiple sites, workforce training and development, and student mentoring.

Ms. Martinez has worked with diverse student populations, including part-time, adult and first-time college generation students. Most recently, Ms. Martinez served as the Director of Adult and Continuing Education for the City College of New York (CUNY), where she oversaw the workforce development, adult literacy, ESL and community services activities. Previously, she was Regional Director at the School of Adult Continuing Education at Barry University and Assistant Dean of Students at Marquette University. Ms. Martinez holds a B.A. in Spanish and M.A. in Spanish/Latin American Literature from Hunter College. She began her career as a Spanish language instructor and continues to teach Spanish as an adjunct instructor.

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. With a staff of more than 350 and services that impact 10,000 people, Union Settlement is building the vitality and success of East Harlem. For more information, visit www.unionsettlement.org.

Union Settlement provides free adult education programs to empower adult students in their personal and professional lives. Each year we serve more than 400 adult students who wish to learn English, gain a basic education, prepare for the high school equivalency exam and/or develop job skills.