



“Union Settlement made it possible for me to have my own business caring for children in my home.”

**UNION
SETTLEMENT**

Valeria arrived in the United States five years ago when she was 28 years old. She had left the Dominican Republic with her husband and three children to build a new life in New York City. But with just a high school education, she didn't have many choices for employment.

Luckily, she found Union Settlement's Family Child Care Network.



“I never expected to have a job taking care of children but I am really happy I do,” says Valeria. “Providing child care out of my home allows me to have my own business and also care for my children when they come home from school.”

Union Settlement's Family Child Care Network trains qualified neighborhood residents to set up their own home-based early education centers.

Using a proven curriculum, we provide oversight and administrative support for all sites within the Network. Each provider is given training throughout the year to ensure all children are cared for in homes that are educational, safe and healthy. **Today, over 200 infants and toddlers attend about 60 home-based child care centers throughout East Harlem and in nearby communities.**

Valeria, along with her husband, currently cares for a group of children, all approximately two years old. The children are dropped off as early as 8 am and often stay in Valeria's care until 6 pm.

Valeria is able to provide a safe and nurturing environment, while encouraging the children's developmental growth. Her services allow parents to attend school or work to support their own families.

One of the children in Valeria's care has developmental delays, so she is also responsible for arranging for therapists to come to her home to provide special services to the child.





“It’s a long day but I really love my work,” says Valeria. “We are like a big family.”

Valeria is just one of the 10,000 East Harlem residents who are helped each year by Union Settlement, which provides education, wellness and community-building programs to children, youth and adults in East Harlem, one of New York’s poorest, most underserved communities.

For over a century, we have been a beacon of hope and opportunity for immigrants and their families from all over the world. In these troubling times, we will continue to ensure our community is a welcoming one.

Please contribute generously so we can continue to provide critical programs to the East Harlem community.

Visit unionsettlement.org/annualappeal to give, or call (212) 828-6024.



Valeria is one of 60 qualified neighborhood residents providing care for over 250 children in their own home. This provides a safe and educational environment for East Harlem children while fostering financial self-sufficiency for providers.

Each year...

10,000

RESIDENTS ATTEND OUR PROGRAMS AT OVER A DOZEN EAST HARLEM LOCATIONS

800

CHILDREN LEARN IN OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM

3,000

YOUTH ENROLL IN OUR AFTERSCHOOL AND OTHER YOUTH PROGRAMS

1,200

CHILDREN & ADULTS RECEIVE SERVICES THROUGH OUR MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

2,000

SENIOR CITIZENS ARE SERVED AT OUR SENIOR CENTERS AND THROUGH OUR MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM

565

STUDENTS ATTEND OUR ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

850

SMALL BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS LEARN BUSINESS SKILLS THROUGH OUR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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