



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
January 12, 2010

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**UNION SETTLEMENT ASSOCIATION'S ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM  
PREMIERS TWO SHORT FILMS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

*Short films produced and acted by students in the Journalism/Media class,  
funded by the Department of Youth and Community Development*

**NEW YORK** – The Adult Education Program of Union Settlement Association, in conjunction with the local television series, We Are New York, announces the free premier of two short films: “*Shadow*” and “*Mamá Escúchame: La Tragedia de Dianita*,” on **THURSDAY JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>, AT 6:30 P.M.** in the **UNION SETTLEMENT AUDITORIUM, 237 East 104<sup>th</sup> Street**, in East Harlem. “We are very pleased to present a community screening of these films,” said Melissa Nieves, Director of Adult Education. “They were created, and include performances, by our adult education students who chose to dramatize issues related to domestic violence and raise awareness on this controversial topic.”

Zully Ramirez, a Journalism teacher at the Union Settlement, said “These stories show the sad reality of domestic violence, a reality we think everyone should be aware of. We hope the community enjoys the magnificent short files that our students worked incredibly hard acting in and producing.” Zully Ramirez, and fellow teacher, Jesus Papoleto Melendez, implemented the media project with a core group of 10 students from the Adult Education Program. The classes were funded by the Department of Youth and Community Development.

The evening includes a showing of each short film as well as a panel discussion and a presentation on the making of each short film. The student producers and actors will be present to answer questions and provide testimonies about their personal experience in learning about media and film making.

The community is welcome to come and enjoy these two short films at no cost, and to learn about the issues of domestic violence. For more information, please contact Melissa Nieves, Director of Adult Education at Union Settlement at (212) 828-6298, or e-mail: [Mnieves@unionsett.org](mailto:Mnieves@unionsett.org).

**About the Union Settlement Association**

Union Settlement Association has worked with and for the residents of East Harlem since 1895. A community mainstay, Union Settlement seeks to foster leadership and self-sufficiency by helping local residents build better lives for themselves and their families. As one of East Harlem’s largest social service agencies, Union Settlement responds to issues that affect the entire community, serving more than 13,000 low-income residents annually through effective programs in education, childcare, nutrition, senior services, counseling, the arts, job training, and economic development. Union Settlement is a large local employer with programs operating in 18 different sites, and thereby also serves as an important contributor to the economic vitality of East Harlem.

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