

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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MEDIA CONTACT Sara Stuart: 212-828-6024

917-566-1462

## UNION SETTLEMENT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTS RUTH PACHMAN NEW CHAIR

New York City – [June 16, 2015] – <u>Union Settlement Association</u>, East Harlem's oldest and largest social services provider, today announced that Ruth E. Pachman was unanimously elected Chair of the Board of Directors at the organization's annual meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Pachman, a Managing Director at corporate communications advisor <u>Kekst and Company</u>, is the 29th Chair of Union Settlement Association since the organization's founding in 1895.

Ms. Pachman succeeds Reginald Harwell, who stepped down as Union Settlement's Board Chair after three years. He will continue to serve as Treasurer.

"Union Settlement is a vital resource for East Harlem, offering critical programs that make a real difference in such areas as early learning, after school activities, senior services, adult education, mental health, and college readiness," Ms. Pachman said. "I am looking forward to working even more closely with my fellow Board members and the dedicated Union Settlement staff in helping thousands of people every year achieve new economic and education goals, stay healthy, and build a stronger community." She has served as Vice Chair of Union Settlement since 2012 and joined its Board in 1995.

"Ruth Pachman's dedication to Union Settlement's role of empowering the East Harlem community as well as her strategic vision will strengthen our work and capacity to fulfill our mission, and we are delighted she has accepted this leadership role," said David Nocenti, Executive Director of Union Settlement. "I would also like to express our deepest gratitude to Reginald Harwell for his commitment to the settlement house movement and for his leadership of our Board of Directors during the past three years."

Ms. Pachman is a strategic and financial communications counselor with a long-term commitment to volunteer non-profit work. In addition to Union Settlement, she is also a Board member of the New York Youth Symphony and former Chair of the Annual Fund at Wesleyan University. She has a BA in English from Wesleyan as well as an MA in English and Expository Writing from the University of Iowa.

Mr. Harwell said: "I would like to thank my fellow directors who have worked tirelessly to build our organization. It has been an honor to serve as board chair and lead such a strong and engaged group. As a youth I participated in programs at a settlement house in Louisville, Kentucky. I know first-hand how

life changing this work can be. I would also like to thank the Union Settlement staff members who do so much to better the lives of our community."

In addition to electing Ms. Pachman as the Chair, Union Settlement's Board of Directors also elected the following officers:

Vice Chair: Eli Gross (Managing Director, Morgan Stanley)

Vice Chair: Caren Heller, M.D. (Chief Scientific Officer, Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America)

Secretary: Gina Rusch (Advocate for East Harlem and Early Childhood Education)

Assistant Secretary: James Lynch (Vice President, Axiom)

Treasurer: Reginald E. Harwell (Finance Executive)

Assistant Treasurer: Christopher Quiñones (Chief Administrative Officer, Brightpoint Health)

Assistant Treasurer: Elisabeth S. Lonsdale (Managing Director, Neuberger Berman)

For a complete listing of the Board of Directors of Union Settlement Association, please visit <a href="http://unionsettlement.org/about/board">http://unionsettlement.org/about/board</a>.

## **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.

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