



Advocating for Our Neighbors Near and Far



Ines De la Nuez, Program Director for the Grand Coalition of Seniors, organized a donation drive to collect diapers, water bottles, and other items to send to disaster relief areas.

Dear Friends,

Since our beginnings in 1916, Grand St. Settlement has helped those who are less fortunate.

So even though the recent natural disasters occurred thousands of miles from New York City, there was no doubt that we would help our neighbors in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and elsewhere in the Caribbean. Many of our staff

and participants--including myself--have roots in the area, so this is especially personal for me.

I am heartened to see members of the Grand St. Settlement family, such as our Grand Coalition of Seniors, our Beacon afterschool program, Unity Plaza Community Center, and Bushwick-Hylan Community Center, organize and collect donations. Their generosity has been--to borrow from our tagline--bold, grand, and inspired. Every little bit helps.

However, our neighbors in the Caribbean will continue to need support in the coming weeks and months, so I encourage all of you to keep lending a hand. [Here is a list of organizations that can use your help.](#)

No matter how you choose to participate, your time and efforts are appreciated. Thank you.

Best Regards,

Robert Cordero, Executive Director

Happening Now

BOLD INITIATIVES

Emily Lederman, Manager of Advocacy and Community Engagement, is representing Grand St. Settlement on the Service/Advocacy LES Working Group, a coalition of community-based organizations partnering to strengthen advocacy work.

GRAND STRATEGY

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams and Councilmember Margaret Chin generously donated funds for us to purchase three shuttles that will allow our

participants to travel between the Lower East Side and Brooklyn.

INSPIRED WORK

Mikey Pizarro, Program Director at St. Brigid, is participating in the PASE/Baruch Emerging Leaders in Nonprofit Management Course! The course provides training to future executive leaders in NYC's afterschool field.

Moments of the Month

Back to School Day in Brooklyn

We hosted our first Back to School Day at Unity Plaza Community Center on Wednesday, September 6. Barbers and stylists donated their time to provide our youth with free haircuts, and we also gave away backpacks filled with books and school supplies!





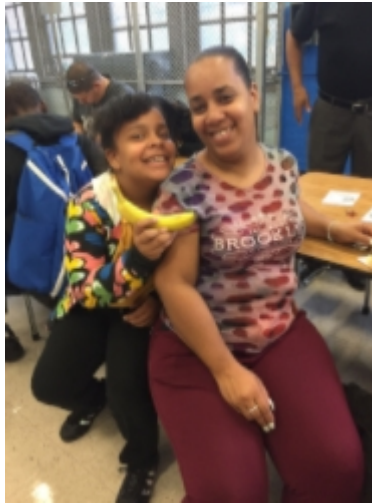
Grand St. Settlement on TODAY.com

TODAY.com featured a [video of our Back to School Day](#)--more than 100,000 people have viewed it so far.

Seniors Sharing a Meal

Seniors at the Baruch Houses NORC gathered together for a potluck where they enjoyed dumplings, sweet rice cakes, and other Chinese pastries.





Take Your Child To School Day

On Tuesday, September 19, MS 582 invited parents and students for a fun day of art, basketball, and raffles!

Roosevelt Paint Party!

Staff, board members, and corporate volunteers gathered on Saturday, September 16 to put on a fresh coat of paint on to paint, clean, and brighten Roosevelt Community Center in Brooklyn.





Grand St. Settlement Featured on Nasdaq

Executive Director Robert Cordero was [interviewed by Nasdaq](#) about the importance of quality afterschool programs and volunteer opportunities, including our JUMP! program.

Celebrating Dads

Our Early Head Start program celebrated "Daddy Comes to School Day" on Tuesday, September 19, a nationwide event to encourage father involvement. Little ones and their fathers took photos with photobooth props!



Maker Faire

Our Clubhouse members attended Maker Faire, a celebration of the Maker movement. They were able to experience some of the new technology and projects other Makers like them have been working on!

More Maker Faire News!

Mu Abeledo, Education Director, and Gabe Fulcar, Clubhouse Coordinator, spoke on a panel

on Equity in Maker Education. They discussed the importance of giving low-income youth an opportunity to bridge the education gap and to receive a STEM education.



A Meeting of the Minds

Grand St. Settlement's staff is its biggest asset! Managers gathered together to discuss the long-term strategy for the organization.

Graduating Seniors

Our seniors at 80 Pitt Street celebrated their new tech skills at the graduation party for their summer computer class.



Learning About Our Work

NYS Assistant Secretary for Human Services Kerri Neifeld visited our LES hub to learn more about the important work that settlement houses like us do. Thanks to United Neighborhood Houses for arranging the visit!

Fall Festivities

Our Grand Coalition of Seniors celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival with dancing, singing, and tai chi.



Next Up

- The next Pop-Up Food Pantry will be Monday, November 13 at 8:30am at 80 Pitt Street. For more information, please contact [Ines De la Nuez](#).
- The BEST program is holding a walking club for seniors at Baruch Houses every Monday and Thursday until November 2. For more information, please contact [Keh-Yueh \(Carrie\) Chen](#).

Want to highlight your favorite moments in the newsletter or social media? Send a description and Instagram-worthy pictures to:

ewong@grandsettlement.org



Sending a warm welcome to the latest group of our social work interns!

Grand St. Shoutouts

Happy Birthday shoutouts to Felicia Bispham, Stacey Bruno, Richie Cintron, Carmen Cotto, Darlene Cuffee, Wendy Diaz, Linda Flores Rivera, Lizandy Flores Tavarez, Brittany Grant, Erika Hernandez, Michael Inge, Chun Kang, Michele Lee, Migdalia Lugo, Chris Mangual, Monica Martinez, Christopher Militano, Charisse Moore-Jackson, Steve Peralta, Scott Percelay, Sovieskis Perez, Mercedes Peterson, Austin Rivera, Jonathan Sanchez, Evan Sandoval, Monique Smalls, Nichelle Thomas, Tanisha Thompson, and Sabrina Veintimilla.

Happy Anniversary shoutouts to Angela Abreu, Rashel Ali, Elizabeth Arroyo, Taquwan Battle, Kaaron Briscoe Minefee, Mary Caba, Andrea Casado, Joey Chen, Tala Councilman, Zoila Cuzco Cumbe, Quran Davis, Miguel Delgado, Yesenia Escalante, Doris Estevez, Cheyenne Frazier, Blanca Gonzalez,

Luciana Gonzalez, Patricia Gooding,
Vanasha Hamlin, Crystal Harris, Malcolm Harrison,
Katuska Hernandez, Felice Jackson,
Aiesha Jones, Shiv Kadar,
Emily Lederman, Jeanette Loera,
Victor Munoz, Sandra Nelson, Oskar Noam,
Samantha Payne, Scott Percelay,
Yvette Pinero, Maurice Rawls, Jelicsa Reyes
Ortega, Austin Rivera,
Christopher Robinson, Kashawn Robinson,
Altagraccio Rosado, Ambar Rosario,
Jonathan Sanchez, Evan Sandoval,
Liliana Santana, Kelly Santos, Keenasha Solomon,
Franshiny Urbaez, Cindy Vasquez, Kai Williams,
Priscilla Williams, Meron Woldemariam,
Jeremy Young, and Mei Zhao.

Thank you for your service and dedication to the
communities of the Lower East Side and Brooklyn.



Grand St Settlement
www.grandsettlement.org
80 Pitt Street, New York, NY 10002
P: 212-674-1740
E: info@grandsettlement.org

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