

*Building strong communities with affordable housing, neighborhood amenities and programs*  
**The New Settlement Community Campus Opens in the Bronx**



**The New Settlement Community Campus** combines two new public schools with outdoor playspaces, a health clinic and a Community Center with pool, dance studio, cooking classroom, and an educational green roof terrace. Some students from the new schools and other area schools are learning to swim for the first time.

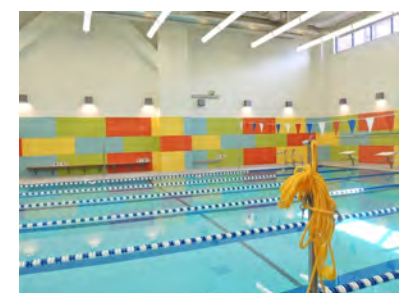
Over 700 students were greeted by Mayor Bloomberg and Schools Chancellor Walcott on the first day of school this September at the New Settlement Community Campus on Jerome Avenue in the Bronx. The Mount Eden Academy P.S. 555 has students in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first grade and will expand to the fifth grade. The Comprehensive Model School M.S. 327 is a middle school with students in sixth through ninth grades and will expand to the twelfth grade. The Campus is also home to a District 75 special education school and a health clinic operated by The Children’s Hospital at Montefiore. New Settlement Apartments manages the Campus and its integrated school and center programs that are available to the students of the new schools, other area schools and the larger community.

This community school model provides an enriched and expanded school day, offering a number of special features at the New Settlement Community Center, including an indoor swimming pool, with programming provided by Asphalt Green, and a dance studio in partnership with the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater. An educational rooftop garden with raised planting beds and an adjacent cooking classroom provide a hands-on learning laboratory for science education, horticulture, nutrition and healthy eating. Outdoor playspaces, an amphi- theater, a gymnasium and an auditorium round out this major education, recreation, arts and healthy living resource for the southwest Bronx community where Settlement Housing Fund and New Settlement Apartments have worked for over twenty years.

The numerous partners and funders who made this project possible are acknowledged on our website and at the Community Center. We thank them all and invite others to support the programs at the Center going forward.

**New Housing Planned for the Bronx and Lower East Side**

Pre-development work is underway to construct a new residential building on a Walton Avenue lot this is part of our New Settlement properties in the Bronx, and will create 60 one to three bedroom apartments affordable to low and moderate income families. The project will bring the total number of units at New Settlement to 1,082 in 18 buildings throughout a ten block radius that includes the new Community Campus. Plans also moved forward with a co-developer on the construction of a new mixed income residence in the Two Bridges Urban Renewal Area of the Lower East Side, where we have partnered on the development of 1,350 units of housing over three decades. This property will include at least 70 units of low income housing.



**For information about the New Settlement Community Center programs, call 718.758.5901.**

Architects: Dattner Architects and Edelman Sultan Knox Wood / Architects  
 Campus photos: David Sundberg/Esto

## DREAMS YouthBuild Expands Its Education and Job Training Program to Support Disconnected Young Adults in Brooklyn

The students who attend our DREAMS YouthBuild training program in Crown Heights, Brooklyn are young adults, ages 16 to 24, who could easily have given up on themselves. They had dropped out or were expelled from high school, were unemployed and unprepared for work, and many were involved with gangs or the juvenile justice system. Some are homeless and estranged from their families, and others are already parents themselves. Fantasia was one of these young people who came to DREAMS while on parole at the age of 17. With the support of our staff and teachers, she took advantage of all that DREAMS had to offer, earning her GED in four months and gaining hands-on construction training while rehabbing housing through our YouthBuild program. Fantasia learned leadership skills and how to prepare for job interviews, and at 21 is now working two jobs while she attends a technical school. When Hurricane Sandy hit New York, she worked with a group of friends to organize a food and clothing drive and helped out with flood damage in the Far Rockaway community where her family lives. She often returns to DREAMS to encourage current students and is the first graduate to participate in a mentoring program that we launched this year.

DREAMS YouthBuild receives funding from the U.S. Department of Labor, YouthBuild USA and the NYC Department of Probation's Community Education Pathways to Success program. DREAMS grew this year to recruit students at Rikers Correctional Facility, added a healthcare and technology track to its construction job training program, and expanded its community service and mentoring programs. Over 100 students will be enrolled next year with the opportunity to earn their GEDs, gain job and life skills, obtain employment and go on to post-secondary education.



## Housing Plus Programs Equals Independence for Homeless Families at Semiperm and St. John's Place Family Center

Formerly homeless single parents and their children come to Semiperm on the Upper West Side from shelters throughout the city, working or in school, and ready to gain the skills needed to become independent and obtain permanent housing. Our life skills training, with a focus on financial literacy, counseling and other supportive services help to make the transition from shelter to housing possible, often to an apartment in one of our own buildings. A Section 8 voucher is guaranteed to them as part of our program. For the 97 families living at our St. John's Place Family Shelter in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, the path to permanent housing is not as fluid. With housing assistance through new Section 8 vouchers no longer available and the Advantage program terminated, it is even more difficult for these families to find housing they can afford. Job skills training and help securing employment are key to their success, and families will benefit from expanded services we will offer them at a new workforce development center we have under construction now next to the shelter. The center is scheduled to open next Spring.

## Celebrating Community



Above: New Settlement Community Campus ribbon cutting with Bronx officials; DREAMS YouthBuild graduates; Semiperm Housing's Celebrate the World event and St. John's Place Family Center's Summer Olympics, with Montefiore's New York Children's Health Project, New York Cares, and Goldman Sachs Teamworks. Left: DREAMS YouthBuild students on the job with Habitat for Humanity and meeting with representatives in Albany.