



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 17, 2016

For Press Inquiries:
Nikki Stewart, VP of Development
United South End Settlements
617-375-8132 • nstewart@uses.org

Boston, MA - United South End Settlements (USES), a South End-based nonprofit offering holistic, multi-generational programming for children and families, has been awarded a grant of \$20,000 from The Boston Foundation as part of the Open Door Grants initiative. The grant will be used to support USES's Vision 125 strategic planning process.

“We are proud to be one of the first grantees of The Boston Foundation's Open Door grants,” said USES President and CEO Maicharia Weir Lytle. “This grant will provide critical funds to support the development of a strategic direction that honors our 125-year history while shaping the future of our programs and services.”

Founded in 1891 as one of the first settlement houses in the country, USES has continually evolved with the needs of the community as the South End transitioned from a predominantly low-income immigrant population to the diverse but divided community we see today. Per an environmental scan conducted by USES in 2014, 26% of all residents - and 36% of children - live below the poverty line.

Over the next three months USES's leadership is engaging in a strategic planning process, led by Wellspring, to explore who the agency will serve, what impact will be achieved, and how to develop a financially sustainable model to fulfill this vision. USES is committed to transparency and inclusion, and as such President and CEO Maicharia Weir Lytle will be sharing updates and insights throughout the process via USES's social media channels.

To learn more visit uses.org/vision125.

###

About United South End Settlements (USES)

The mission of United South End Settlements is to build a strong community by improving the education, health, safety, and economic security of low-income individuals and families in and around Boston's historic South End/Lower Roxbury. Underscoring our mission is the principle that healthy communities are ones where there are opportunities to engage all residents in inclusive dialogue and solutions. It is only through such engagement - neighbors helping neighbors - that a community creates “social capital” through relationships, trust, and networks that lay the foundation for problem solving and, ultimately, a common vitality that sustains all community members.