



## THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

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# CM CHIN JOINS COMMUNITY TO CELEBRATE HENRY STREET SETTLEMENT FIREHOUSE GROUNDBREAKING



LOWER EAST SIDE – Last Friday, Council Member Chin joined community residents and advocates to celebrate the groundbreaking of a new neighborhood resource center located at the site of the former firehouse at 269 Henry Street.

“Today marks a hard won community-led victory, and an exciting new chapter for Henry Street Settlement,” said **Council Member Chin**. “I know that this victory was no small feat. For more

than a decade, Henry Street Settlement has been working tirelessly to raise the funds needed to renovate the building, and thanks to the support of the Burch Family Foundation and impassioned community members, we brought it back. Congratulations to all the community leaders who made this possible. I am so excited to see what’s in store.”

Following the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks, Engine Company 15 relocated to a location on Pitt Street, leaving the three-story firehouse vacant. For more than a decade, Henry Street Settlement has worked to bring the building back to community use. On October 25, 2017, after raising the funds needed to renovate and repurpose the historic building, Henry Street Settlement took possession of the property.

Named the Dales Jones Burch Neighborhood Center at Henry Street Settlement, the firehouse will now reprise its role as a “first responder” for families in need of counseling or resources. Programming plans for the space include free legal and financial counseling, parenting workshops and benefits screening and signing up for vital programs like food stamps and health insurance. Its new design, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, will be wheelchair and stroller accessible.

The center is expected to open in 2020.



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