



# Mission Neighborhood Centers, Inc

Transitions: Past, Present, and Future



# Settlement House History

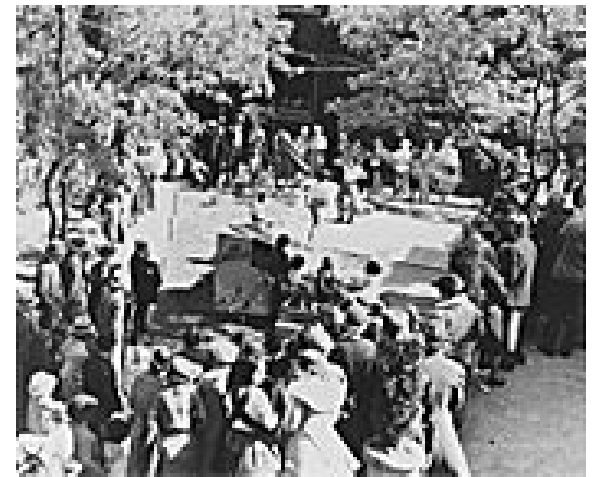
- Between the late 1800's and the end of World War I, massive urban social problems persisted
  - Rapid population growth
  - Economic distress
  - Labor unrest
  - Unemployment
  - Low wages
  - Unfair labor practices/child labor
  - Poor living conditions



Toynebee Hall

# Settlement House History, cont'd

- The British social activists believed students and the wealthy should “settle” in poverty stricken neighborhoods to provide services, work for social reform, and to improve the daily quality of life – both populations could learn from one another.
  - Later, the poor, but educated class were encouraged to be part of the “settlement” house movement.
- First Settlement House founded in 1884 in London’s East End



# Settlement House History, cont'd.

- First American Settlement House, the Neighborhood Guild, founded in 1886, in New York City's Lower East Side



Neighborhood Guild

- Settlement house staff resided in the same buildings in which programs and activities occurred
  - Staff regarded the people who used services as neighbors, not clients

# Settlement House History, cont'd.

- Target Population
  - Poor, immigrants, families, women and children
- Services
  - English language classes, afterschool recreation, job clubs, childcare, literacy, citizenship assistance, art and music classes, playgrounds, healthcare and referrals, kindergartens, meals for seniors
- Social Reform Advocates
  - Organized protests against child labor, supported organized labor, worked for better housing conditions, advocated for education and health care access



Jane Adams, Hull House Founder



## The Girls' Club of San Francisco

- In the late 1800's Rae and Eva Wolfsohn, from a Jewish-German immigrant family, organized "managers" to establish the Girls' Club located at 7<sup>th</sup> and Folsom Streets
  - First Settlement House in northern California
  - Managers were women from leading and prominent San Francisco families
- After 1906 earthquake fires destroyed the building, the managers mobilized to build the Capp Street Center
- In 1911, the Capp Street center became the new home for the Girls' Club of San Francisco

# The Girls' Club of San Francisco cont'd. 1900-1942



- The Club provided services to girls and their mothers (most poor immigrants or recent California transplants)
  - Cultural activities
  - Life skills
  - Cooking classes
  - Music classes
  - Art classes
  - Recreation
  - Social events

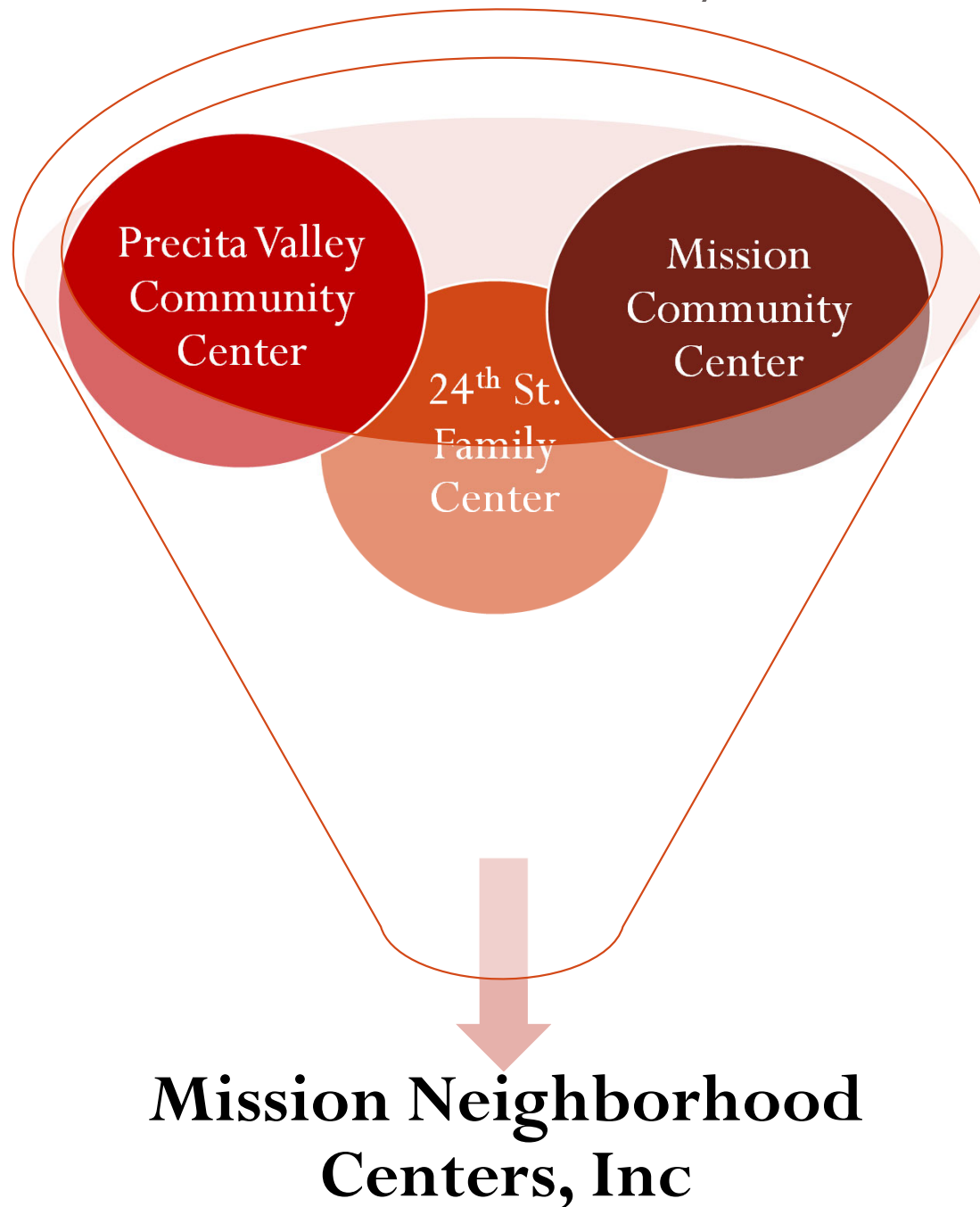
# The Girls' Club Becomes Mission Neighborhood Centers, Inc. 1942-1958

- In 1942, the Community Chest (current day United Way) recommended the Girls' Club provide services to boys
- At the same time, the Community Chest recommended the Club provide expanded services to families
- Hence, *Mission Community Center* was created with the Girls' Club as one of its programs



# The Girls' Club Becomes MNC, cont'd.

In 1958, a study commissioned by the Community Chest encouraged the merger of three neighborhood centers





## **Children Services Division –**

**An Early Head Start and  
Head Start Grantee**

School Readiness, Dual  
Language Classroom  
Instruction, Mental  
Health/Disability

Intervention Services, Health and  
Nutrition Intervention Services, Family  
Services/Parent Education Classes, Food  
Bank

## **Youth Services Division –**

Afterschool/Safe Haven  
Services, Support  
Groups, Workshops,  
Summer Programs, Field  
Trips, Gender Specific  
Services and Groups,  
GED classes, Alternative  
to Detention, Case  
Management, Workforce  
Development



## Senior Services

### Division –

Yoga/Zumba/Dance  
Classes, Health  
Screenings, Healthy  
Cooking Classes, Food  
Bank, Computer  
Classes, Congregate  
Meals, Sewing / Art  
Classes, Choir, Wellness  
Field Trips



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Friendly  
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