



...Because every child deserves a childhood

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 17, 2009**

### **Astor Opens New School in New Location**

**Rhinebeck, NY** – Astor Services for Children & Families, Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce and Greater Southern Dutchess Regional Chamber of Commerce hosted a grand opening and ribbon cutting of Astor's School Age Day Treatment Program that opened the school year in a new location: the former Mt. Carmel School. The celebration took place on Thursday, November 12, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at 15 Mt. Carmel Place in Poughkeepsie. Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Poughkeepsie Mayor John Tkazyik and Assemblyman Marcus Molinaro joined Astor board members, mental health and educational supporters, friends and neighbors for the celebration.

Astor's School Age Day Treatment Program serves children ages 5 – 12. Because of emotional or behavioral problems, children in this program find it difficult to attend regular schools. Astor's School Age Day Treatment Program combines a program of clinical treatment with educational services that follow a curriculum approved by the New York State Education Department. This program gives children the chance to thrive in a traditional school environment with the intensive support they need to overcome behavioral challenges. When children and adolescents graduate, they can re-enter public school and transition to their appropriate school placement.

"I want to thank the Parish of Mt. Carmel for allowing us to bring our children to this school and giving us the opportunity to provide our children with the best education possible in an environment that is conducive to healing and learning," says, Konstantinos Tsoubri, Ph.D., Assistant Executive Director, Astor Services for Children & Families, Hudson Valley Behavioral Health & Prevention Programs.

Over 100 people were in attendance for the open house and ribbon cutting, and many received a tour of the new facility. Some refreshments were donated by two local businesses, Café Bocca and La Deliziosa.

*Astor Services for Children & Families (formerly The Astor Home for Children), as it has since 1953, promotes the well-being of children, adolescents and their families through a range of programs that prevent and treat emotional problems and facilitate healthy development. Now serving over 6,000 children and families annually, Astor's current range of services to families in the Mid-Hudson Valley and the Bronx include: Residential Treatment, Therapeutic Foster Family Care, Early Childhood Programs, and Community-Based Behavioral Health and Prevention Services. For additional information about Astor Services for Children & Families, please visit their website at [www.astorservices.org](http://www.astorservices.org) or call Astor Services for Children & Families: Home for Children Foundation at (845) 871-1117.*

