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...Because every child deserves a childhood

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OVER 1,000 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES HAD A BRIGHTER HOLIDAY SEASON, THANKS TO ASTOR DONORS!

Rhinebeck, **N.Y**.— More than 1,000 children and families in the Hudson Valley region had a brighter holiday season this year, thanks to the many individuals, schools, youth groups, churches and businesses who "adopted" children and families through Astor Services for Children & Families 2009 Adopt-A-Family Program.

The community showed its support once again, in so many ways: gifts were collected from malls, workplace toy drives and churches. In addition, some families made the decision to purchase gifts for Astor's children in lieu of buying gifts for each other; and one donor collected money from friends and family members to purchase gifts for the children. Many companies and individuals adopted families or children, donating toys, home goods, and other items. Over 1,000 children and parents in our region had a brighter holiday season this year due to a tremendous outpour of care and generosity.

Astor extends its heartfelt thanks to all the individuals and anonymous donors, and to the following organizations, for their generous support and compassionate dedication to the success of the community's families: Allstate Claims Office (Fishkill), Bard College, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York, The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, Chancellor Livingston School, Clear Channel, Corbally, Gartland and Rappleyea, Dutchess Day School, CWA Local 1182, Enterprise Fleet Services, Archcare at Ferncliff Nursing Home, Fidelis Care, Garden Gates Landscape, Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union, IBM of East Fishkill, Kinderhaus Montessori School, John Jay H.S., Make a Child Smile Foundation, Mental Hygiene, Mill Road Elementary School, New York State Police, Optimus Architecture, Prudential, Royalty Caregivers and Consultants, Rhinebeck Deli, Rhinebeck H.S., St. John's Reformed Church, Thompson House, Topical Biomedics, Toys for Hospitalized Children, Ulster Savings Bank, United Way, Wells Fargo Advisors, Whiting-Turner, World of Dance.

"Each year, there are so many in our area who help make the holidays special for a child or a whole family," said James McGuirk, Ph.D., Executive Director/CEO of Astor Services for Children & Families. "This year, we had an overwhelming response to the 'adoption' program. I want to thank all our past and new donors who participated in this program that truly makes a difference in so many lives. It shows how much Dutchess County and the Hudson Valley care about children and families in our community, and we at Astor truly appreciate the community's continued support."

Since 1953, Astor Services for Children & Families (formerly The Astor Home for Children) has been providing behavioral and educational services in a caring environment where children and their families find strength, healing, hope and trust. 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 <u>www.astorservices.org</u> or call Astor Services for Children & Families: Home for Children Foundation at (845) 871-1117.



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