



...Because every child deserves a childhood

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 12, 2010

Astor to Construct New Living Quarters for its Residential Treatment Facility Program

Rhinebeck, N.Y. – Astor Services for Children & Families will replace the current living quarters for the children in the Residential Treatment Facility (RTF) Program in Rhinebeck. Astor hopes to break ground for the new building in the spring of 2011.

Astor's RTF is a 24-hour treatment facility for children from low-income families in the Hudson Valley Region and New York City. The children range in age from 5 - 12 at the time of admission and have a diagnosed severe emotional disturbance/mental illness. When there is evidence of a need for treatment beyond what could be provided in a less restrictive setting and the child's behavior is such that they can be maintained safely in open-treatment surroundings, Astor's RTF is most suitable.

According to Jim McGuirk, Ph.D., Executive Director/CEO, Astor Services for Children & Families, "We are delighted to have the opportunity to build new living quarters for the 20 children in our RTF Program. The current living spaces in our historic Rhinebeck location have been retrofitted over the past 50 years and are not fully meeting the needs of the children."

Dr. McGuirk goes on to say that, "Construction of the new building will not increase the number of children we serve – that number will remain the same. Rather, the new living units will allow us to further meet our commitment to provide the best quality service in the best possible environment."

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 www.astorservices.org or call Astor Services for Children & Families: Home for Children Foundation at (845) 871-1117.