



...Because Every Child Deserves a Childhood

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**Dedication and Ribbon Cutting
Astor's New Children's Mental Health Center
"Astor at Highbridge"**

BRONX, NY – Astor Services for Children & Families will celebrate the new Astor Children's Mental Health Center, "Astor at Highbridge," with a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, October 1, 2010 at 11:30 AM at 1419 Shakespeare Avenue (near P.S. 199 Shakespeare School) Bronx, NY.

Expected guests include Peter Rivera, Bronx Assemblyman; Aurelia Greene, Deputy Bronx Borough President; Vanessa Gibson, Assemblywoman; Lenny Caro, President, Bronx Chamber of Commerce; Anita Appel, Director, NYS Office of Mental Health; and other community leaders and mental health professionals.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony is an opportunity for Astor to introduce its Outpatient Clinic at Highbridge which provides mental health services for children and adolescents (ages 2 - 21) and their families. This facility will offer outpatient counseling, psychiatric services and case management in a caring and supportive environment. In addition, the Clinic is designated as a Child and Family Plus provider with mental health screenings at no cost to families.

"Astor is pleased to be able to join with other organizations in the Highbridge Community to provide quality mental health services to children and their families. I also want to emphasize that we provide mental health screenings free of charge to families," said Joan DiBlasi, Ph.D., Assistant Executive Director, Bronx Community-Based Behavioral Health & Prevention Programs, Astor Services for Children & Families.

Since 1953, Astor Services for Children & Families (formerly The Astor Home for Children) has provided 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.

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