FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 6, 2011

OVER 1,200 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES HAD A BRIGHTER HOLIDAY SEASON, THANKS TO ASTOR DONORS!

Rhinebeck, N.Y.— More than 1,200 children and families 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 2010 Adopt-A-Family Program. The support of donors helped made the holidays warm and merry for some of Astor’s neediest children and families.

The community showed its support once again, in so many ways: gifts were collected from workplace toy drives and churches. Many companies and individuals adopted families or children and donated toys, home goods, and other items. Over 1,200 children and parents had a brighter holiday season this year due to the tremendous outpouring of care and generosity. In addition, some families and organizations adopted all the children in an entire Astor program where they purchased and delivered gifts and provided entertainment for the children.

Astor extends its heartfelt thanks to all the individuals and anonymous donors as well as to the following organizations for their generous support and compassionate dedication to the success of the community’s families: All State Claims Office in Fishkill; ArchCare at Ferncliff Nursing Home; the Black History Month Committee: Exempt Fireman’s Association in Poughkeepsie; Central Hudson Gas & Electric; Central Hudson Call Center; Chancellor Livingston Elementary School; Church of St. Nicholas-on-the-Hudson; Clear Channel; Corbally Garlant and Rappleeya, LLP; CWA Local 1182 in NYC; Duchess County BOCES; Duchess Day School; Earth Angels Veterinary; Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union; IBM - Hopewell Junction; IBM - MHV ECCC; John Jay High School Cheerleaders and Senior Class; Local Transport Union 101 in NYC; Mill Road Elementary School; Prudential Serls in Poughkeepsie; Red Hook Moms; Rhinebeck Deli; Rhinebeck High School SADD Group; Royalty Care Givers; St. John's Reformed Church; The Good Shepherd Parish in Rhinebeck; The Sherland Group; The Terraces at Brookmeade; The Thompson House; The Women's Council of Realtors; Topical Biomedics; and Whiting Turner.

“I am in awe of the generosity and kindness of our donors who truly made this holiday season a memorable one for our children and their families,” said James McGuirk, Ph.D., Executive Director/CEO of Astor Services for Children & Families. "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 our community cares about children and families who are in need. 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 www.astorservices.org or call Astor Services for Children & Families: Home for Children Foundation at (845) 871-1117.

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