

Central Administration

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...Because every child deserves a childhood

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 23, 2011

Astor and DCRCOC to Host Annual Breakfast on Suicide Prevention Among Children and Youth

Rhinebeck, **N.Y.** – M. David Rudd, Ph.D., will speak on the issue of "Suicide Among Children and Youth," on Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 7:30 AM at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. Dr. Rudd will address an audience of business and community leaders during the 8th Annual Public Policy Breakfast, hosted by Astor Services for Children & Families and the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Rudd is Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Utah and Scientific Director for the National Center for Veterans Studies at the University of Utah. His research has been recognized with awards both nationally and internationally. In addition to his clinical work, Dr. Rudd is an active researcher with over 170 publications. He is currently conducting a \$1.97 million clinical trial for suicidal soldiers at Fort Carson, Colorado. Dr. Rudd has testified five times before the U.S. Congress, both House and Senate, on issues related to veterans and suicide.

Dr. Rudd's presentation will demonstrate how communities can save kids' lives through the combination of better public awareness and the provision of quality mental health services. He will also address the role of stigma as a barrier to the provision of these services.

IES, Inc., Kirchhoff-Consigli Construction Management, M&T Bank, McCabe & Mack LLP., and Rose & Kiernan, Inc., are the sponsors for this year's Public Policy Breakfast.

In addition, Dr. Rudd will hold a special training workshop on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 from 10 a.m. -4 p.m. at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. This workshop, sponsored by Astor Services for Children & Families, is open to mental health professionals, nurses, psychiatrists, students, interns, teachers, school clinicians and educators, and agencies. The workshop will provide a clear theoretical and treatment model for understanding suicidal ideation and behavior.

For workshop information, contact Dr. Athena Drewes at (845) 452-6077 ext. 112. There is a \$65 fee to attend the workshop.

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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