



...Because every child deserves a childhood

**Central Administration**

6339 Mill Street  
P. O. Box 5005  
Rhinebeck, NY 12572-5005  
Tel: (845) 871-1000  
Fax: (845) 876-2020  
Email: [astor@astorservices.org](mailto:astor@astorservices.org)  
Website: [www.astorservices.org](http://www.astorservices.org)

Sonia Barnes-Moorhead  
Astor Services for Children & Families  
(845) 871-1117 [smoorhead@astorservices.org](mailto:smoorhead@astorservices.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 25, 2011**

**Astor Appoints New Board Co-Chairs**

**Rhinebeck, NY** – Ann K. Armater and David A. Crenshaw, Ph.D., ABPP were elected Co-Chairs of the Board of Directors of Astor Services for Children & Families. Astor provides behavioral and educational services to over 6,000 at-risk children and their families in the Mid-Hudson Valley and the Bronx.

Armater has over 30 years experience as a fundraising professional. She is currently the Vice President for Development at Health Quest, a three-hospital healthcare system that includes Vassar Brothers Medical Center (Poughkeepsie, NY), Northern Dutchess Hospital (Rhinebeck, NY) and Putnam Hospital Center (Carmel, NY).

Armater has extensive governance experience, having served on the boards of several community-based organizations in Dutchess County, including, Family Services, Inc., the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the Dutchess County Unit, American Cancer Society, where she served as Chair. Armater is a graduate of the College of New Rochelle, and Fordham University.

Crenshaw is the Director and Founder of the Rhinebeck Child and Family Center, LLC, a private practice serving children and families that also provides training and consultation to agencies serving at-risk children. He is past President of the New York Association for Play Therapy, Board Certified in Clinical Psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology and a Fellow in the Academy of Clinical Psychology. Crenshaw is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and a Fellow of the APA Division for Child and Adolescent Psychology. He is a registered Play Therapist Supervisor by the American Association for Play Therapy. In November 2009, he was given the Excellence in Psychology Award by the Hudson Valley Psychological Association.

Crenshaw is author, co-author, or editor of a total of ten books in the field of psychology, numerous book chapters, and journal articles on child trauma. He was a clinician for over 30 years in the residential treatment of emotionally disturbed, often abused and traumatized children. He retired from the Astor Home for Children in 2001 but has been on the Board of Directors of Astor since 2003. He is currently the Clinical Director at the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie and does training and consulting with the Grace Smith House in Poughkeepsie that provides shelter for survivors of domestic violence and their children. He is also a Faculty Associate, Johns Hopkins University.

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Upon her appointment, Armater said, "I have great respect for the meaningful, life-changing impact Astor has on children and families and I am delighted to be able to serve on this Board as Co-Chair with David."

"I am honored to serve as Co-Chair with Ann because of my immense respect for her. I am privileged to serve as Co-Chair of the Board of Astor's Services for Children & Families with whom my ties go back to 1978 when I joined their Clinical Staff. I have always passionately believed in its mission of bringing hope to children and families," said Crenshaw upon his appointment.

Armater and Crenshaw expressed their thanks to out going Board Chair, Larry Weisberg, for his strong and visionary leadership during his tenure.

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

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