



...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)

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### **Astor Receives \$200k Grant from Robin Hood**

**Rhinebeck, N.Y.** – Astor Services for Children & Families received a \$200,000 grant from Robin Hood of New York, NY, that will support its Transition Program in the Bronx. This program helps children with serious emotional problems to transition from the Lawrence F. Hickey Center for Child Development and the Early Childhood Day Treatment Program into traditional public school with ongoing supportive services.

The Lawrence F. Hickey Center provides early childhood and mental health services to a special group of 3-5 year old children with emotional and cognitive needs. These children display a range of behaviors that impact on their ability to develop or attain age-appropriate cognitive and social skills. Typically, they have been rejected from nursery school programs and kindergarten after a few weeks of enrollment. Many of the children in this program are in kinship foster homes and have lived in impoverished environments characterized by violence, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and child abuse. Children ages 5 – 12, in Astor's Day Treatment Programs in three locations in the Bronx come from the same background with many in the foster care system living with kinship foster families or with other families in the community. The primary goal of these programs is to teach children the skills necessary so they can transition to a less-restrictive public school environment.

"I can't begin to thank Robin Hood for their investment in our work! Robin Hood's overarching goal is to eliminate poverty in the New York City area which truly aligns with our like goals for the children in our Bronx programs. We need to help those who have severe emotional and behavioral disorders graduate high school." said James McGuirk, Ph.D., Executive Director/CEO, Astor Services for Children & Families.

McGuirk goes on to say Robin Hood's grant will help Astor provide additional supportive services to the children as well as allow them to capture data that will show the impact Astor is making on the lives of these children and their families.

*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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