



...Because every child deserves a childhood

Central Administration

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Astor to Host Oral Health Presentation for Head Start Children

Rhinebeck, NY – Amr M. Moursi, D.D.S., Ph.D., will speak about, “The Age of Innocence and Early Intervention: Oral Health Care for Early Head Start and Head Start Children.” This presentation will take place on Friday, May 6, 2011, from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM at Northern Dutchess Bible Church in Red Hood, NY. Dr. Moursi will address an audience of providers and caregivers of children enrolled in Astor’s Early Childhood Programs: Early Head Start and Head Start, dentists and pediatricians.

Astor operates all the Head Start Programs in Dutchess County. Head Start is a federally-funded program for children from low-income families. It is a preschool developmental program of early childhood education and ancillary services including health (i.e., physical, dental and mental), nutrition, and social services, including extensive parental involvement and participation.

Over 52 million school hours are lost every year due to poor oral health in the United States as young children are particularly susceptible to several serious oral health disorders. Early assessment, ideally by age one, and early intervention are the best strategies for assuring good oral health for young children.

Dr. Moursi, Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at New York University, College of Dentistry, will discuss the assessment and management of a comprehensive range of pediatric oral health disorders. Emphasis will be placed on the role providers and caregivers can play in risk assessment and the facilitation of early intervention.

“This is such an important health issue for our children, and I am delighted we are able to offer this opportunity to parents, caregivers and community members, who will learn more about the importance of good oral care for young children ” says Mary Sontheimer, Assistant Executive Director, Astor’s Early Childhood Programs.

For more information, please contact: Melinda Berroa, Astor’s Early Childhood Programs via email: Mberroa@astorservices.org; or phone: 845-452-4167 ext 146.

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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