FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 11, 2012

OVER 1,000 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES HAD A BRIGHTER HOLIDAY SEASON, THANKS TO ASTOR DONORS!

Rhinebeck, N.Y.— More than 1,000 children and families had a brighter holiday season thanks to the many individuals, schools, youth groups, churches and businesses who played “Santa” through Astor Services for Children & Families’ 2011 Adopt-A-Family and Holiday Programs. The support of our generous donors helped to make 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 the following organizations for their generous support and compassionate dedication to the success of our community’s families: Bard College, Brownie Troop #10232, Bugaboo Creek, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York Central Hudson, Chancellor - Livingston School, Citizens Bank, Clear Channel’s Toy Drive, Cornwall High School, Cornwall High School Student Government, CWA Local 1182, Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce - Young Professionals, Dutchess Day, Dutchess TECKON, HealthQuest, HVFCU, IMB, John Jay High School (Cheerleaders and Senior Class), Kohl's (Kingston), Kohl's Cares, Kirchoff Consigli Construction Management, Metropolitan Transit Authority (NYC), Peekskill Presbyterian Church, Mill Road Elementary, New York State Troopers (Rhinebeck), Northern Dutchess Paramedics, One Less Thing, Poughkeepsie Journal, Premier Medical Group, Prudential-Serls, Rhinebeck - Chancellor Livingston School, Rhinebeck Deli, Rhinebeck High School (SADD Program and Seniors), Rhinebeck Savings, Royalty Care Givers, St. Denis-St. Columba, St. Christopher's Inn, St. Francis Hospital, St. John’s Reformed Church, Success Power Brokers, SUNY Orange Psychology Club, The Terraces at Brookmeade, Thompson House, Topical Biomedics, United Way, V.A. Hudson Valley, Welwyn Stable, LLC, Whiting-Turner, World of Dance.

“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 our holiday programs which truly make a difference in so many lives. It shows how our community cares about children and families 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 The Children’s Foundation of Astor at (845) 871-1117.