



...Because every child deserves a childhood

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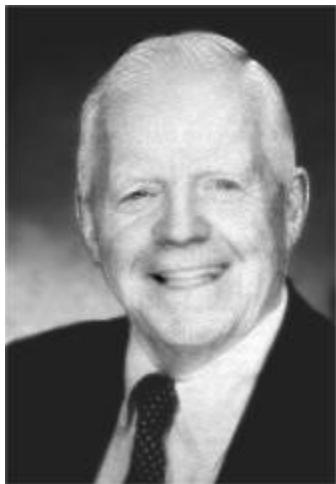
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**MEDIA ALERT:** March 29, 2012

**Astor to Celebrate “Mr. Hickey Day” at the  
Lawrence F. Hickey Center for Child Development  
4010 Dyre Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10466-2510  
12:30 PM**

Mr. Hickey was on the Board of Directors at Astor from 1981 until 2004, and a benefactor of Astor. Mr. Hickey was instrumental in assisting Astor in acquiring the “Little Red School House” from the City of New York for our Early Childhood Program in the Bronx. The program was named the Lawrence F. Hickey Center for Child Development in his honor in September 1991. The “Hickey Center” serves children ages 2.9 years to kindergarten with behavioral and emotional needs.



Mr Hickey was a generous humanitarian, giving of his time and many talents. He was committed to ensuring the world become a better place for children and their families. He received many honors throughout his life for efforts on behalf of the poor and disabled including the *Serena Branson Award*<sup>1</sup> from Astor Services for Children & Families.

Married for almost 56 years, Mr. Hickey’s wife, Jean passed away in August 2007. They resided in Manhattan where he and Jean raised their four children, Elizabeth, Frank, Magee and Jane; and were the proud grandparents of 11 grandchildren. It was with deep sadness when we announced Mr. Hickey’s passing on Monday, March 28, 2011.

The staff and children at the Hickey Center declared March 31<sup>st</sup> as Mr. Hickey Day (his birthday). It will be a day to celebrate Mr. Hickey’s life and his wonderful values. There will be many activities planned and the children will wear red, Mr. Hickey’s favorite color. Mr. Hickey’s legacy will forever live on through the children and families we serve.

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.

<sup>1</sup> Sister Serena Branson was a major figure at Astor in the early years. Among her many contributions, she founded the residential center in Rhinebeck, the Kennedy Child Study Center, and the Albany Diocesan Commission. Sister Serena played a leadership role in Catholic Charities in regard to social issues. Serena had an incredible sense of vision about how to fulfill the social justice and social service dimension of the Church’s life and she made that vision come alive.