



...Because every child deserves a childhood

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September 9, 2013

Astor Receives a \$25k Grant from Countess Moira Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

RHINEBECK – Astor Services for Children & Families' Bronx Programs received a \$25,000 grant from the Countess Moira Foundation, New York, NY, to support its Parent Child Interaction Therapy Training (PCIT), the Art and Music Program, and a Family Fun Day.

“Parent Child Interaction Therapy is a proven parent-child treatment program that assists parents by giving them the tools to work with their children who have behavioral problems (aggression, non-compliance, defiance and temper tantrums). Parents are videotaped and they can actually see themselves using skills successfully and when they are not. They are delighted to see themselves mastering good parental skills which help to build their confidence.

PCIT is a popular treatment modality providing parents with immediate feedback and showing them the tools that work to assist them with their child's behavioral problems. We are so thankful for the Countess Moira Foundation's continued support of this program,” says Rod DiMotta, Ph.D., Assistant Executive Director, Astor Bronx Community-Based Behavioral Health & Prevention Programs.

Astor's Bronx Programs have been using PCIT Training for several years in their Outpatient Clinics, predominantly at the Lawrence F. Hickey Center for Child Development (LFH), a therapeutic Early Childhood Development Program, as well as for their children in the School-Aged Day Treatment Center at Byron Ave.

This grant will also support the children and families in Astor's LFH and the Tilden Street Centers to participate in a Family Fun Day. According to Dr. DiMotta, “Many of the children and families served by Astor face significant daily challenges as the result of unemployment, poverty and stress. When they have the opportunity to just be children who can participate with their families and siblings in a fun-filled afternoon, cherished memories are created and lives can transform – the Family Fun Days provide Astor's children and families that opportunity.”

In addition, this grant will provide the children an opportunity to work with a trained artist and musician in an Art and Music Program throughout the year. The children's art work will be displayed at a



special art show; and there will be a music performance sometime during an event. “I can’t emphasize enough how important it is to give our children the opportunity to express themselves through art and music. It not only gives them the chance to heal, but it gives them something to be proud of. We are all very thankful to The Countess Moira Foundation for allowing us to provide our children and their families with such memorable experiences,” says Dr. DiMotta.

About Astor

Since 1953, Astor Services for Children & Families (formerly The Astor Home for Children) provides behavioral and educational services in a caring environment where children and their families find strength, healing, hope and trust. Now serving more than 6,000 children and families annually, Astor’s current range of services 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 more information about Astor Services for Children & Families, visit the agency’s website at www.astorservices.org or call (845) 871-1117.

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