



...Because every child deserves a childhood

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Gigi Catering and Hudson Valley Ventures to make Astor's Thanksgiving Heartier

### *Restaurant preparing turkey dinner for children*

RHINEBECK – Every year, Astor's Residential Program in Rhinebeck serves a Thanksgiving dinner to its children and staff who cannot be with their families for the holiday. This year, a local restaurant is donating a fresh cooked gourmet turkey dinner and all the trimmings for more than 70 children and adults at the residential facility.

With support from Hudson Valley Ventures, Gigi of Rhinebeck, will deliver the locally sourced spread Astor's kitchen on Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM, and Astor's kitchen staff will prepare it on Thanksgiving day, said Sonia Barnes-Moorhead, spokesperson for Astor Services for Children & Families. Gigi made a similar donation last year.

"Food always tastes better when it's shared," said Laura Pensiero, owner of Gigi Hudson Valley, "so we'll be bringing a farm fresh feast to the children of Astor and the working staff."

Pensiero praised Hudson Valley Ventures for joining Gigi's in making the donation this year. "We're especially pleased our partner and supporter, Sean Eldridge and his firm, Hudson Valley Ventures, will join us this year," she said.

Eldridge said he and the staff at Hudson Valley Ventures and Gigi "believe making time for our neighbors is a priority, and Thanksgiving is a perfect time to remember members of our community who are in need."

James McGuirk, Astor executive director and CEO, thanked Gigi and Hudson Valley Ventures "for this thoughtful – and delicious – outpouring of support."

### **About Astor**

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 more than 6,000 children and families annually in over 33 locations, Astor's current range of services in the Hudson Valley (Dutchess, Orange and Ulster counties) and the Bronx include: Residential Programs (for children ages 5 - 14 who have severe behavior and mental health challenges); Early childhood Programs (Astor operates the Early Head Start and Head Start Programs in Dutchess County, a federal early childhood program for low-income families); and Community-Based Behavioral Health and Prevention Services (outpatient mental health services).



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