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...Because every child deserves a childhood

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Astor donors brightened holidays for its children
Agency annual Adopt-A-Family program reaches over 1,800

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rhinebeck, N.Y Rhinebeck, N.Y.— More than 1,800 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' 2014 Adopt-A-Family Program. The support of generous donors helped to make the holidays warm and merry for some of Astor's neediest children and families.

Over 1,800 children and parents had a brighter holiday season this year due to the tremendous outpouring of care and generosity by the community. Gifts were collected from workplace toy drives and churches, and numerous companies and individuals "adopted" families or children and donated toys, home goods, and other items. Some families and organizations adopted all the children in an entire Astor program, purchasing and delivering gifts and providing entertainment for them.

"Many of the families in our programs are among some of the least fortunate in the community and I'm so happy that so many people responded to our outreach," said Sam Lowe, Program Manager and Coordinator of the Adopt-A-Family Program.

Companies and organizations that supported Astor this holiday season include:

Adeline Malone Law Office, AllState, Berkshire Hathaway Hudson Valley, CASA Ulster County, Central Hudson Gas & Electric, Century 21, Chancellor-Livingston School, Chase Bank, Clear Channel, Communications Workers of America , CWA Local 1182, Dutchess Tekcon, The Community at Brookmeade, Dutchess Day School, Gary DiMauro Real Estate, Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union, HudsonValleyHelpWanted.com, Hudson Valley Young Professionals, IBM, Integrity Land Services LLC, IXL, John Jay High School, Kidz Giving Hunt, Kindermusik Studio, Kirchhoff-Consigli Construction Management, Laerdal Medical, LeGrand Real Estate, Millbrook Real Estate, Newburgh Free Academy, Northern Dutchess Paramedics, Paula Redmond Real Estate, Patricia A. Hinkein Realty LLC, People's United Bank, Red Hook Central School District, Rhinebeck Bank, Rhinebeck High School, Rhinebeck Reformed Church, Riverbank Banjo Band, Rodenhausen Chale LLP, Sacred Heart Youth Group, Saint Denis - Saint Columba School, Swan Realty, Thompson House, Topical Biomedics, United Way of Dutchess-Orange Region, W.B. Mason, and Westage Management.

James McGuirk, Ph.D., Executive Director and CEO of Astor, said, "I remain in a place of gratitude for the generosity and kindness of our donors, who truly made this holiday season a memorable one for our children and their families. I want to thank all of our current and new donors who participated in our program. It shows that our community cares about children and families in need. We, at Astor, truly appreciate the community's continued 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 (in Dutchess County, Astor operates the Early Head Start and Head Start Programs, which are federal early childhood programs for low-income families); and Community-Based Behavioral Health and Prevention Services (outpatient mental health services).

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