



...Because every child deserves a childhood

November 17, 2014

**Central Administration**

6339 Mill Street  
P.O. Box 5005  
Rhinebeck, NY 12572-5005  
Tel: (845) 871-1000  
Fax: (845) 876-2020  
Email: [astor@astorservices.org](mailto:astor@astorservices.org)  
Website: [www.astorservices.org](http://www.astorservices.org)

## Astor seeks donors to brighten holidays for its children *Agency's annual Adopt-A-Family program*

**For more information contact:**

Sam Lowe

(845) 871-1171, [slowe@astorservices.org](mailto:slowe@astorservices.org)

**Web site: [www.astorservices.org](http://www.astorservices.org)**

RHINEBECK – Throughout the year, Astor Services for Children & Families provides behavioral and educational services for thousands of children and their families throughout the mid-Hudson Valley.

Astor is looking for help from the community to ensure the children they serve, who are from low-income families, have a fulfilling and enjoyable holiday season. Astor is seeking donors for its annual Adopt-A-Family program and for ongoing support of its Adopt-A-Classroom program.

“Some of the families in our programs are among the least fortunate in our community and need our help,” said Samantha Lowe, Program Manager.

Groups or individuals are asked to volunteer by providing gifts for the families. Suggested gifts are divided into two categories: a “needs” list and a “wants” list. The “needs” list includes items such as groceries, winter coats, and hats and gloves. The “wants” list includes more traditional holiday gifts, such as dolls, arts and crafts sets, and children’s sports equipment.

Lowe said the response from the parents of children who receive gifts through the Adopt-A-Family program is always heartwarming. “Every year, they are grateful for the amazing support from so many donors,” Lowe said. Last year, Adopt-a-Family served over 1,500 individuals (children and families) in the community.

Astor is also seeking donors for Adopt-A-Classroom, where groups and individuals from the community donate school supplies to the agency’s Head Start programs. Recent federal budget cuts have had a significant impact on local Head Start programs in Dutchess County. “Donations of \$200 per student or \$4,000 per classroom can provide the necessary materials, such as paper, crayons, glue, paint and poster boards, for a Head Start class for a full year,” Lowe said.

For more information on the Adopt-a-Family and Adopt-a-Classroom programs, contact Lowe at 845-871-1171 or at [slowe@astorservices.org](mailto:slowe@astorservices.org).

**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: Day Treatment Programs (for children ages 2.9 – 14); Residential Programs (for children ages 5 - 14 who have severe behavioral 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).

###

SPONSORED BY

Catholic Charities  
Archdiocese of New York  
*Providing Help. Creating Hope.*

