

For further information please contact: Sonia Barnes-Moorhead Astor Services for Children & Families (845) 871-1117 smoorhead@astorservices.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 4, 2009

Astor Announces Name Change at Benefit Dinner

Rhinebeck, N.Y. – Astor Services for Children & Families (formerly The Astor Home for Children) held its 8th Annual Benefit Dinner on Friday May 1st at Locust Grove, The Samuel Morse Historic Site, in Poughkeepsie. This lively celebration of over 56 years of service to children and families in the community included a cocktail reception, wine pairing, music, dancing and fun.

At the dinner, Astor unveiled its new name and logo, the product of a year-long re-branding process. The new name, Astor Services for Children & Families, is a better representation of the programs and services they provide to a changing and diverse client base. Dr. James McGuirk, Executive Director/CEO of Astor Services for Children & Families says, "We are very proud of our beginning as a residential treatment program under the sponsorship of Catholic Charities. However, we soon became much more than a home for children as our services expanded to meet the needs of our children and their home communities. Our new name, Astor Services for Children & Families, better communicates the wide range of services we offer as well as our commitment to helping children and their families."

This year's honorees at the benefit Dinner, William Carroll and Dr. Theodora Budnik, were honored for their dedication to Astor and the community. The honorees were given framed tiles, handmade by children in Astor's Residential Programs, as a token of appreciation. There were also live and silent auctions of fabulous items, including 5 days and 4 nights at Half Moon Resort in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

The cocktail hour and dinner was catered by Pamela's Traveling Feast from Newburgh, NY and paired with wines from Millbrook Winery & Vineyards and Benmarl Winery. Astor would like to extend a special thanks to its major donors: Rose & Kiernan, Inc., The Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York and McCarthy Pharmacy and to all its friends in the community.

For more information about Astor's Benefit Dinner please call 845-871-1171 or visit their website at www.astorservices.org.

Astor Services for Children & Families, as it has since 1953, promotes the well-being of children, adolescents and their families through a range of programs that prevent and treat emotional problems and facilitate healthy development. 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 or call Astor Services for Children & Families: Home for Children Foundation at (845) 871-1117.