

...Because every child deserves a childhood

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

RHINEBECK, NY, November 21, 2016 – 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 and the Bronx.

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, Senior 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 1,300 individuals (children and families) in the community.

For more information on the Adopt-a-Family program, contact Lowe at 845-871-1171 or at <u>slowe@astorservices.org</u>.

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 more than 33 locations, Astor's range of services in the Hudson Valley (Dutchess, Orange and Ulster counties) and the Bronx include: Residential Programs; Early Childhood Programs; and Community-Based Behavioral Health and Prevention Services. Visit the organization online at www.astorservices.org

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Editor's note: Three images of acrylic roller paintings by Astor's children that will be available for purchase during the event are attached.