



...Because every child deserves a childhood

Central Administration

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Astor's Children's Benefit Gala: Breaking the Stigma Against Mental Health

Honored retired **NBA Player Adonal Foyle**, *Golden State Warriors*; and *Bronx NYPD*, **Deputy Inspector Ruel Stephenson**. **Bronx Borough President, Rubén Díaz, Jr.**, *Keynote Speaker*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK – On Thursday, May 5 at 6:00 p.m., Astor's Junior Board of Directors held their *First Annual Gala: Breaking the Stigma Against Mental Health*, to support children in the Bronx who are battling this issue. The gala took place at Manhattan Surrogate's Court. The gala was well attended, with many young professionals and Astor supporters.

Retired **NBA Player, Adonal Foyle** (Golden State Warriors), and Bronx **NYPD Deputy Inspector, Ruel Stephenson**, were honored. The **Keynote Speaker was the Bronx Borough President, Rubén Díaz Jr.**

"I am honored to be a member of Astor's Junior Board – a group of young professionals in New York City, who care about children battling mental/behavioral health and educational issues, and are actively doing something to help them – to help shed light on these issues by raising awareness and funds for Astor's Bronx programs, in an effort to break the stigma that surrounds these vulnerable and often times traumatized children," said Nicole Giambarrese, Junior Board President.

James McGuirk PhD, Executive Director/CEO thanked the Junior Board for their commitment to break the silence around mental health and dedication to support Astor's children and families.

The Gala included a silent auction that included baseball tickets to a Subway Series game, a week's vacation anywhere in the world, and many more items!

Sponsors of the event included Accurate Plastics, Inc., Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York, New York Women's Foundation, Protiviti, Teladoc, and United Health Care.

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 8,000 children and families annually in over 40 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 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).

