



2017 Hesburgh Service Initiative Honors Late Fr. Hesburgh

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Kathy Welsh

RHINEBECK – Astor Services for Children & Families will welcome the Notre Dame Club of the Mid-Hudson Valley and youth of the Bruderhoff community to its Rhinebeck campus on Saturday, May 6, when the groups will participate in a garden volunteer effort as part of the 2017 Hesburgh Service Initiative.

The initiative honors the 16th president of the University of Notre Dame, Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., for his commitment to the pursuit of peace and promotion of human dignity. The annual Hesburgh Month of Service began in 2007, in recognition of Father Hesburgh's 90th birthday, with 90 Notre Dame clubs hosting volunteer projects in collaboration with the Alumni Association.

During the sponsored day of volunteer work at Astor, Notre Dame Alumni, youth from the Bruderhoff community, family, friends and Astor staff will prepare the campus' vegetable garden for planting, including securing its fencing and composting station. In addition, the groups will clear brush along the site's stream to improve access for fishing by the children.

“We are delighted to team up once again with Astor, together with the youth of the Bruderhoff community, for our annual Hesburgh Day of Service,” said Erin Rider, Notre Dame Club of the Mid-Hudson Valley, Summer Service Coordinator. “We will join members of the Notre Dame community throughout the world to honor the life and legacy of Fr. Hesburgh. We are grateful for our on-going relationship with Astor and the opportunity to take part in the great work they do.”

“We are so thankful to the Notre Dame Club of the Mid-Hudson Valley for their continued support of our children,” said James McGuirk, Ph.D., Executive Director/CEO of Astor Services for Children & Families. “For several years, they have worked so hard to beautify spaces for our children. We are most grateful to them and the youth of the Bruderhoff community for all they do.”