

Astor Services Accredited with The Joint Commission's Gold Seal

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Astor Services for Children & Families, which provides behavioral and educational services for thousands of children and their families throughout the Bronx and mid-Hudson Valley, has been accredited with The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval. Astor has been accredited by The Joint Commission, an independent, not-for-profit that accredits and certifies health care organizations and programs in the United States, continuously since 1974.

The Gold Seal of Approval accreditation was awarded in March and demonstrates Astor's commitment to providing the highest quality service and care to children and families in the community. One of few community-based behavioral health organizations to achieve this recognition, Astor received an outstanding review as a 'high reliability' organization, including its focus on ensuring top-level services, client satisfaction and continued efforts for advancement.

"The Joint Commission standards represent the highest standards for quality in behavioral health," said Executive Director/CEO, **Jim McGuirk**, PhD. "By working to meet those standards, we continue to raise the bar of excellence throughout our treatment programs."

The five-day accreditation process included visits to 20 Astor sites in Dutchess and Orange counties, plus the Bronx, staff interviews and other assessments.

"We can all be proud of the work we do every day for the thousands of children we serve in our programs," said McGuirk. "I want to thank everyone including staff, Board and volunteers, for their commitment to our clients and to our agency."

About Astor:

Since 1953, Astor Services for Children & Families has been providing behavioral and educational services in a caring environment where children and their families find strength, healing, hope and trust. The organization, which has been accredited with The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval, now serves more than 10,000 children and families annually in more than 70 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