


# Notre Dame Club and Community Members Revitalize Gardens at Astor Services for Children & Families in Rhinebeck

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New York

5/4/18

*Volunteers' gardening efforts honor late Father Hesburgh through the 2018 Hesburgh Service Initiative*

As part of the 2018 Hesburgh Service Initiative, the Notre Dame Club of the Mid-Hudson Valley will participate in a volunteer effort to revitalize garden areas on the campus of Astor Services for Children & Families (Astor) in Rhinebeck on May 5.

The garden upgrade, which includes securing fencing and a composting station, honors the 16th president of the University of Notre Dame, the 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.

"We are extremely grateful to the local Notre Dame alumni, family, friends and Astor staff for volunteering their time to make the campus a more beautiful and nurturing place," said James McGuirk, Ph. D., Astor's executive director/CEO. "This allows us to put our best foot forward and highlight the services and benefits Astor provides."

## **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. Now serving more than 10,000 children and families annually in over 80 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 behavior 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). [www.astorservices.org](http://www.astorservices.org).

