



...Because every child deserves a childhood

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ASTOR SERVICES FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES'

NEW BOOK LOOKS AT YOUTH PSYCHOSIS

Suzanne Button, Ph.D., Lead Researcher in Early Detection, Treatment

RHINEBECK, NEW YORK, MAY 11, 2016 – Astor Services for Children & Families, (<http://astorservices.org>), a Rhinebeck, NY-based non-profit that provides behavioral and educational services for children and their families in the Mid-Hudson Valley and the Bronx, announces the release of “Early Identification and Palliative Care for Psychotic Disorders in Children and Youth,” by an implementation and outcomes research team from Astor and published in April 2016 by the American Mental Health Foundation.

The 70-page book presents findings of a two-year study funded by an \$80,000 grant by the American Mental Health Foundation, including ways to develop and study early identification and palliative strategies for young people at risk for psychosis. Research for the study was led by Suzanne Button, who has a doctorate in psychology and is the assistant executive director, quality and clinical outcomes for Astor and by Mary Nichols, who has a doctorate in psychology and specialized expertise in the area of psychosis intervention. Other members of Astor’s team included Undergraduate Research Coordinator, Katherine Hoople; and Research Aide, Laura Lappan.

“In children, as with anyone, psychosis is a difficult and debilitating condition of the mind,” said Button. “By identifying at-risk youth that may be vulnerable to developing psychosis early on, and applying interventions to treat the conditions, children can learn coping skills and strategies that will help them acquire and build resiliency for their healthy development.”



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Among the risk factors for psychosis that the book examines are genetics, thought disturbance, recent and rapid deterioration in functioning, social impairment and substance abuse. The publication also covers youth screening for psychosis, interventions and follow-up care.

"We are grateful to the American Mental Health Foundation for supporting our work to raise the quality of life to children and their families," said Button. "Thanks to their grant, Astor's clinical teams and staff are better informed, allowing youth to receive more of the care they need for productive and fulfilling lives."

The book now is available through Amazon

http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=dp_byline_sr_book_2?ie=UTF8&text=Suzanne+Button&search-alias=books&field-author=Suzanne+Button&sort=relevancerank.

About Astor Services for Children & Families

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 7,000 children and families annually, Astor's current range of services to families in the Mid-Hudson Valley and the Bronx include: Residential Treatment, Therapeutic Foster Family Care, Early Childhood Programs, and Community-Based Behavioral Health and Prevention Services. For additional information about Astor Services for Children & Families, please visit www.astorservices.org or call (845) 871-1117.

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