



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, December 11, 2020

Please Note: This Update is posted on the Passaic County website, the Passaic County Facebook page, distributed through the Constant Contact email group for families who have elected to provide their email address and is distributed to all staff. Our Social Workers and Therapeutic Recreation staff distribute the Update to residents who wish to receive it.

We are continuing the required antigen testing of staff and all who enter our Home in accordance with the NJ Department of Health's "Long-term Care Testing Regimen Pilot Program". Since the last Update, two staff have tested positive for COVID based on an antigen test: an Environmental Services employee and a Security Guard. In addition, one C NA who was on Leave and last worked at Preakness on November 30, 2020 tested positive at an off-site location.

Residents continue to be tested weekly. 137 results from the resident testing on December 7 through December 10, 2020 are pending. All results received to date have been negative.

Our long-term resident who tested positive and was considered a "facility-onset" case has recovered and returned to her room. Essential caregiver visitation and outdoor visitation may resume on all units except 1-200 which is on quarantine status until December 14, 2020. Essential Caregiver visitation and outdoor visitation may resume on 1-200 on December 14, 2020. As a reminder, essential Caregiver Visitation and outdoor visitation may not occur for residents on 2-400 C (observation unit) and 3-400 C (COVID positive unit).

We have partnered with CVS Health for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccines. CVS will provide educational information and consent forms which we will distribute to residents, the designated representative for a resident and to staff. As explained in a NJ DOH webinar on December 10, 2020, it is anticipated that the Pfizer vaccine will be provided to nursing facilities for the on-site vaccine clinics. Informed consent must be obtained from a resident or the resident's designated representative before the vaccine may be administered. Staff must also provide consent. Nursing facilities are in the Phase 1A group of the vaccine distribution. All healthcare personnel, paid and unpaid, serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to residents or infectious materials are eligible to receive the vaccine. Essential caregivers are included within this designation.

Happy Hanukkah to our residents, their families and our staff who are celebrating Hanukkah.

If you have an urgent call or complaint, please call Preakness Healthcare Center Security staff at 973-317-7023 and your call will be directed to the appropriate person.

If you have questions related to Infection Prevention, please call Cristina Hucalla, Infection Preventionist at 973-585-2181.

Please call 973-585-2145 to speak with Lisandro Perez, Jr to schedule an outdoor visit, weather-permitting, or if your role as an Essential Caregiver has been approved, to schedule an indoor Essential Caregiver visit.

Virtual visits may be arranged by calling Alina Zalenski, Director of Therapeutic Recreation at 973-585-2124 or Lee Livingston, Senior Recreation Therapist at 973-585-2163. If there is a request for hair salon services, you may direct the request to Ms. Zalenski or Ms. Livingston.

Passaic County continues to offer free COVID-19 testing at home and at mobile sites for Passaic County residents. Please see the Passaic County website (passaiccountynj.org) for the details.

As always, many thanks for the work of our staff and the sacrifices they make and the continued support we receive during these challenging and emotional times. ***Preakness Strong Heroes Continue to Work Here!***

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA
Executive Director