



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, July 25, 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.

Weather-permitting, we will have visitation each day. If it is necessary to cancel visits due to Heat Advisories that are issued or rain/thunderstorms, we will call those who have scheduled a visit and will also place an announcement on our constant contact email group. We are monitoring the forecasts for Monday, July 27 which at this point in time include high heat and humidity.

Our weekly testing of residents and staff continues. Residents were tested on July 20 through July 23. All results are pending. 368 staff were tested on July 22 and 23. Two staff from Nursing tested positive, one who worked on 3-200 and one who worked on Pathway and Plaza West. Therefore, as a precaution we have placed the residents on 3-200 who were cared for by the staff person who tested positive on transmission-based precautions. Residents on Plaza West who have never tested positive and who were cared for by the staff person who tested positive were also placed on transmission-based precautions.

The following is the cumulative update for our current census of 287 residents and staff:

- Since March 25, we have had one hundred fourteen residents test positive for COVID-19. The cumulative total includes seventy-five residents who have ever tested positive and have twice consecutively tested negative, thirty residents who have ever tested positive and passed away and one resident who passed away who was presumed positive. Eight residents are currently positive. No residents who are positive are hospitalized.
- One hundred nineteen staff have tested positive. One hundred ten staff have returned to work.

One of our long-term residents passed away since the last Update. She was admitted in 2010 and joined her brother who was our resident from 2002 until his passing in 2012. Through the years we had the opportunity to meet their families. We offer our condolences to her family, friends, and co-residents and to our staff who have taken care of our resident.

Residents on all units who are COVID negative may have outdoor visitors except residents on the 1-400 and 2-400 units that are still on quarantine, and the residents on 3-200 and Plaza

West who are on transmission-based precautions. It is anticipated that the quarantines on 1-400 and 2-400 will be discontinued on July 28, 2020 and the precautions for the residents who are on transmission based precautions on 3-200 and Plaza West will be discontinued on August 5 (3-200) and August 6 (Plaza West).

Thank you to all for your cooperation during outdoor visitation. As a reminder, visits are weather-permitting, as follows:

- 1:30 pm to 2:15 pm
- 2:30 pm to 3:15 pm
- 3:30 to 4:15 pm
- 4:30 to 5:15 pm

Appointments may be requested by calling 973-585-2132 or by email to lcorrado@passaiccountynj.org. The Outdoor Visitation Policy may be obtained from the Passaic County website, www.passaiccountynj.org, under Preakness Healthcare Center or you may request a copy from me.

Current regulations include virtual physician visits whenever possible and off-site medical visits when virtual visits cannot be conducted. Consultant physicians who have been approved for on-site visits include Pulmonology, Psychiatry, Dentistry and Podiatry. The physicians must present a negative COVID test before their first on-site visit and are required to test weekly to continue to be approved for on-site visits. Dental services for residents who require urgent care will resume on July 30. It is our goal to resume Podiatry care within two weeks.

Passaic County continues to offer free COVID-19 testing at home for Passaic County residents and is also offering testing at mobile sites. Please see the Passaic County website for the details.

As always, many thanks for the work of our staff and the sacrifices they have made and the continued support of our residents, families, colleagues throughout Passaic County, the community and those who assist in the testing of residents and staff during these challenging and emotional times. ***Preakness Strong Heroes Do Work Here!***

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA
Executive Director