



# Preakness Healthcare Center

## A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, November 13, 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.

*In this Veterans' month, we thank and acknowledge our residents and staff who are Veterans!*

When the last Update was written, 112 results were pending from the weekly testing of residents on November 3 through November 5, 2020. All results were received and were negative. Residents were tested on November 9 through November 12, 2020. All results received to date were negative. As of the time of this writing, 76 results are pending for residents. Currently, there aren't any residents positive for COVID-19 in our Home.

Staff are now tested on Wednesdays. When the last Update was written, 93 results were pending for staff tested on November 4, 2020. The results were received and were negative. 358 staff and 11 physicians/medical personnel were tested on November 11. All results have been received except three results that are pending for staff. Two CNAs and one physician tested positive. The CNAs have worked on resident units 1-300, 1-400, 2-200, Pathway and 3-200. Nursing management are in the process of informing the residents and the designated representatives for the residents who were exposed to the physician or who received care by the CNAs. Nursing staff continue each shift to monitor all residents for any change in condition or symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

With the positive test results for the staff and physician, we remain at Phase 0. In Phase 0, we can offer outdoor visitation or Essential Caregiver visitation.

Throughout the Pandemic, our policies and practices have evolved as information about the novel Coronavirus is revised, as guidance documents from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are issued, as New Jersey regulations and Executive Directives and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services memoranda are issued and as information is shared between the Department of Health and healthcare providers during webinars. We have revised our Essential Caregiver Policy to delete the release of liability language that had been included in a webinar presentation regarding Essential Caregivers. In addition, based on verbal discussion with officials at the Department of Health regarding Essential Caregivers and social distancing, we can allow Essential Caregivers to feed as an Essential Caregiver. If you would like to include feeding into the Essential Caregiver plan of care, please inform Lisandro Perez, Jr. when you schedule your next visit so that training may be arranged. The revised Essential Caregiver policy

will be posted on the Passaic County website/Preakness Healthcare Center page. We will provide copies of the Essential Caregiver agreements with the liability language marked void to those who have already signed the Agreement.

This week, two of our residents passed away. Our 96-year old resident from 3-400 has lived with us since 2013. She often shared with us her experiences managing a business and was outspoken in her advocacy to ensure the needs of residents on her unit were met by staff. Our 88-year old resident was a “new” resident, coming to our Home in 2019. We offer our condolences to their families and co-residents and thank our staff who have compassionately taken care of our residents.

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 or if your role as an Essential Caregiver has been approved, to schedule an indoor Essential Caregiver visit. Outdoor visits are weather-permitting.

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](http://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