



# Preakness Healthcare Center

## A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, as of April 15, 2020  
(As of 10 am)

Please Note: This Update is posted on the Passaic County website, the Passaic County Facebook page and distributed to all staff. Our social workers will distribute the Update to residents who wish to receive it. Notification of the Update will be made on the Constant Contact email group for families who have elected to provide their email addresses.

Yesterday, the NJ Dept. of Health's information included that 324 of the 375 senior living (nursing facility and assisted living) facilities have at least one resident who has tested positive for COVID-19 and that there were as of yesterday 5,264 residents who have tested positive in the facilities. In our last update, I shared that we were awaiting the test results of seventeen residents. We have received the results, and to date, we have had 30 residents test positive. All but three residents have lived on the same resident unit. Tragically, ten residents have passed away. On April 14, we readmitted one of our residents who was in the hospital and was discharged as stable to return. Two residents who are hospitalized are scheduled to return today.

Preakness has 524 staff. All staff of Preakness are considered essential employees and staff in all departments are engaged in providing services and care for our residents. Thirty-one staff have tested positive. Our staff have continued to care for our residents despite the challenges and constraints. Many staff have children and after tirelessly working must go home and help their children with school work while the schools are closed. Many care for their parents at home after work. This morning I saw the headline in a newspaper: "Nursing homes: the unseen nightmare". What a horrendous portrayal of the committed and dedicated staff who work in nursing homes, and most especially, at Preakness. To our staff who may have read this article, please do not allow these types of portrayals to destroy your commitment. Remain, "Preakness Strong". On your behalf, I have received many thanks for our resolve and efforts.

Calls will continue to be made by nursing staff to the designated representatives for residents who are directly impacted by illness, testing or hospitalization. We are fortunate to have the ability to test on-site without a visit to an emergency room to give our physicians the timely information they need to treat residents who do test positive. We are continuing to cohort together residents who have tested positive, residents who are presumed positive pending test results and residents who do not exhibit any signs or symptoms of illness and are grateful to the staff who are working on our quarantined unit.

I am frequently asked by families how the virus can continue to spread with all of the precautions we have put into effect. As we all have learned from the experts, this virus can be spread by asymptomatic individuals. All precautionary measures remain in place and staff are being provided with N95 respirator masks.

We are grateful for the support we have received from the County Administration, the County Health Department and our colleagues in other County departments who have ensured that our needs are met. As always, we appreciate the support of our residents and families during these challenging and emotional times, and look forward to the flattening of our curve.

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA, Executive Director