



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, April 13, 2021

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.

Since the last Update, three staff who are working in support departments tested positive: Dietary, Environmental Services and the Business Office. Two of the three staff tested positive during the first day of the twice/weekly on-site testing of staff on April 12, 2021 and one staff tested positive during an off-site test. We currently have eight staff who are positive out of work. Effective April 19, 2021, staff who are tested on-site will be tested on Monday and Thursday, instead of Monday and Wednesday.

We received all results from resident testing on April 12, 2021, except one result. All results received were negative. Currently, we do not have any residents who are positive for COVID-19. Effective April 19, 2021, residents will be tested as follows:

- Monday: 1-300, 2-300, Pathway and 1-400
- Tuesday: 1-200 and 2-200
- Wednesday: 3-400, 2-400 and Vent
- Thursday: 3-200

We screen and test vendor staff. On April 12, 2021, during the on-site test of a laboratory technician, the test result was positive. The technician was not permitted to enter.

We had a fabulous Baseball Opening Day/DJ Dance Party in the resident patio this afternoon. Residents and staff had a chance to show their baseball (wiffle ball) skills and/or dance. Thank you to our DJs: Tyrone Buggs, Lamar Davis and Tony Sangster, our staff who coached, pitched, and caught the balls, our staff who cheered for the players and our staff who assisted with the transport. There were many Yankee fans, a few Mets fans and one lone Redsox fan.

On April 14, 2021, at 11 am, a Ramadan prayer service will be offered and broadcast on our in-house TV Channel.

Healthcare Decision Day is on April 16, 2021. This national day is established to promote the importance of advance care planning and encourage people to express their wishes regarding healthcare and to document their wishes in an advanced care plan.

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. In addition, Dr. Geoffrey Mugalu, Assistant Executive Director may be reached at 973-585-2113 to address any concerns.

Please call 973-585-2145 to schedule outdoor, compassionate or end of life visits. Phone messages are checked each day including weekends. As of April 13, 2021, we can offer outdoor visitation (for all units except the 2-400 Observation Unit), compassionate care visits and end of life visitation.

If there are concerns or questions for the Resident Council and you need to reach Donna Parisi, President of the Resident Council, please leave a message with Sharon Link, Director of Social Services at 973-585-2148.

Virtual visits or hair salon requests 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.

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

Best wishes to our residents, their families and our staff who are observing Ramadan.

As always, many thanks for the work of our staff, their sacrifices 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