



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, February 12, 2021
Celebrating Black History Month

Please Note: This Update is posted on the Passaic County website and 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.

CVS notified us of a *CHANGE IN SCHEDULE* for the final vaccination clinic. The **only** date that CVS will be on-site to administer the second dose of COVID-19 vaccinations is **Tuesday, February 16, 2021** from 10 am to 4 pm. Lisandro Perez, Jr. called Essential Caregivers with the revised date. Residents and staff are being informed of the schedule change.

Results were received from the resident testing with nasopharyngeal tests on February 10 and 11, 2021, and from the pending saliva test results for residents from February 8 and 9, 2021. One resident who was previously positive in April 2020 and was fully vaccinated tested positive. All test results for residents were received. Currently, there are eight residents on the COVID positive unit.

406 staff were tested on February 10, 2021 with saliva tests. Two staff tested positive: one staff from Environmental Services and one Respiratory Therapist from the vent unit. One staff test result is pending. All residents on the vent unit are on quarantine status.

Because the CALL score for our region remains high, staff will continue to be tested two times/week. Next week, in recognition of the Presidents' Day holiday, staff will be tested on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 and Friday, February 19, 2021.

The NJ Department of Health has a new long-term care resource page: <https://www.nj.gov/health/ltc/>. The website includes an interactive map with the phase of reopening of facilities, links to the COVID data dashboard, current outbreaks, the Office of the Ombudsman and information related to long-term care.

Mardi Gras is February 16, 2021. We will celebrate with a special lunch for residents and staff. Entertainment will be broadcast through our inhouse TV system. Staff are invited to wear purple, green or gold for Mardi Gras.

Sr. Pat and Fr. Jim will offer a prayer service and ashes for our residents on Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021 following all COVID requirements.

In honor of Black History Month, Lorraine Stone will be with us through our in-house TV system for a special presentation on February 18th at 2:45 pm.

The NJ Department of Health requested that we disseminate information on the virtual town hall that the NJ Department of Health is hosting regarding vaccines. Participation is free:

- February 15 at 7 pm specifically related to concerns in the Latinix community:
<https://register.gotoebinar.com/register/565691448483659789>

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 and Ms. Link will inform Ms. Parisi.

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 speak with Lisandro Perez, Jr to schedule an outdoor visit, a compassionate visit or an end of life visit. Outdoor visitation may occur for residents who are not on isolation or quarantine. You may request an Essential Caregiver application from Mr. Perez. *Please note:* Essential caregiver visitation continues to be suspended on all units and will be suspended until there have been 14 days without a positive resident, facility-onset, case.

Virtual visits or requests for hair salon services 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. Please see the Passaic County website (passaiccountynj.org) for the details. Passaic County is also offering COVID vaccines for eligible patients. Registration: passaiccountynj.org/COVIDvax.

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

Happy Valentine's Day!

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA
Executive Director