



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, February 17, 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.

For Valentine's Day, Students in the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Chapter at Passaic County Technical Vocational Schools in the Diana C. Lobosco STEM Academy and Passaic Co. Vocational and Technical Institute provided a slide show of more than 200 "Cards for Caregivers". The cards were distributed through staff email and we are in the process of having the cards printed to post throughout our Home for all to see. The cards are beautifully prepared and express the sentiments of the Pandemic --- while you cannot see the cards from this Update, what follows are some of the expressions of gratitude from the students. It is heartwarming and uplifting to read their appreciation and their hopes for the future:

- Once upon a time, there was an amazing caregiver, you.
- Thanks to you we all wake up with the reassurance that we will stay safe during this pandemic. I can trust that resources and care will not be denied. Thank you for waking up every day to face something we are all afraid of. Your bravery and strength doesn't go unnoticed. Thank you for being heroes to all of us and for giving us hope.
- Thank you so much for your service! We wouldn't be able to live right now if it wasn't for your sacrifices. You inspire me to go into the medical field. Thank you so much for doing the hardest job there is right now. You deserve so much. Thank you so much once again for your sacrifice and dedication.
- Thank you for working your butts off during this pandemic. I appreciate that you're risking your health to care for the community. I'm staying home to do my part. I wish you rest and quiet from the storm.
- Caregiver: Compassionate, attentive, responsible, empathetic, giving, incredible, vigilant, enduring, resilient
- Not everyone can do what you do. You are an inspiration.
- The motherly care and affection of nurses are the key reason behind the recovery of so many patients. You guys left no stone unturned to defeat this deadly disease.
- I'm masking you to be my Valentine.
- Wishing you good health and PPE while you care for sick and dying patients. You are our heroes.
- Hang in there. Things will get better.
- At a time when many of us hid away, you stayed out there to protect us! You have been working the hardest and I just wanted to say we love you and truly appreciate the work you have done and are doing.
- We are almost at one year since the quarantine began for many of us. I can for sure say that my life went through so many twists and turns. It was very difficult for not only me

but for everyone. However, healthcare workers would still get out of bed and do everything they could to help people.

Thank you immensely to the students for your encouraging words!

Results were received from the resident testing with nasopharyngeal tests on February 15 and 16, 2021. One resident who was previously positive in April 2020 tested positive. One resident who was in the hospital and was readmitted after a nine day stay in the hospital, tested positive two days after she returned to us. Currently, there are eight residents on the COVID positive unit. 39 results are pending from resident testing today.

412 staff were tested today with saliva tests. Staff will be retested on February 19, 2021 with antigen tests.

Thank you to Jenny Gonzalez, C NA who surprised our test team today with the empanadas she prepared for them!

Due to the anticipated storm on February 18, 2021, the Black History presentation by Lorraine Stone is rescheduled to February 22, 2021 at 2:45 pm.

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!***

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA
Executive Director

305 Oldham Road, Wayne, NJ 07470

973-585-2169

email: lcorrado@passaiccountynj.org