



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, January 12, 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.

As we continue our holiday expressions of gratitude on behalf of our residents, thank you to Our Lady of the Valley Roman Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus Council #6354 who remembered our residents through their Giving Tree!

Staff were tested on-site on January 11, 2020 with antigen tests. One C NA who works on resident unit 2-300 and had been on vacation tested positive upon return to work. Because there wasn't exposure to our residents, the 2-300 unit was not placed on quarantine. Three staff who were tested off-site received positive results: a nurse who worked on units 1-400, 3-400 and had last worked on January 4, 2021, a social worker who worked on the 300 units and had last worked on January 8, 2021 and a CNA who worked on units 1-200, 3-200, 3-400 and had last worked on January 7, 2021.

Residents continue to be tested weekly. 105 results are pending for residents for weekly tests that were completed through January 12, 2021.

Resident units on quarantine are as follows:

- Unit 2-400 ventilator unit and Pathway through January 18, 2021.
- Unit 3-200 through January 16, 2021, 2021
- Unit 1-400 through February 1, 2021
- Unit 3-400 through January 24, 2021
- Unit 1-200 through January 20, 2021

- Please note: Essential caregiver visitation is suspended on all units due to the facility-onset positive resident COVID cases.

Yesterday, we said goodbye to one of our residents whom we have known for many years, first as a visitor for his wife, our resident from November 2013 through February 2018, and later as our resident for subacute and long-term care. Many staff enjoyed discussing history with him. We offer our condolences to his family and friends, to his co-residents and to our staff who have taken care of our resident.

New Jersey is vaccinating healthcare workers and first responders in categories 1A and 1B and has established a Vaccine Scheduling System (NJVSS) <https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/> for the public to pre-register for the COVID-19 vaccine. We are permitted to provide vaccines to our staff, residents and

essential caregivers.

Cristina Hucalla, Infection Preventionist is coordinating our COVID-19 vaccination clinics. Feel free to call Mrs. Hucalla at 973-585-2181 with any questions or to make a reservation for the next COVID vaccine clinics that will begin on January 24, 2021. We encourage all residents, staff and essential caregivers who do not have medical contraindications for the COVID-19 vaccine to be vaccinated.

Donna Parisi, President of the Resident Council has asked that if there are any concerns or questions for the Resident Council that a message be left 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, weather-permitting. Outdoor visitation may occur for residents who are not on isolation or quarantine. Please be reminded that NJ has restrictions in place for those who travel from other states. Visitors from these states may not visit unless the person has completed the required quarantine period. You may request an Essential Caregiver application from Mr. Perez for this type of future visit.

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) 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