



# Preakness Healthcare Center

## A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, January 6, 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.

Our second COVID-19 vaccination clinic was held on January 4, 2021, in partnership with CVS Pharmacy. 168 residents, 122 staff and 15 essential caregivers were vaccinated on January 3 and January 4, 2021. This includes, in addition to the residents vaccinated on January 3rd, thirty-five residents from resident unit 1-200, twenty-seven residents from unit 2-200, thirty-one residents from unit 3-400, twenty three residents from unit 1-300. Residents from unit 2-300 and Pathway who were not vaccinated on Sunday or Monday, staff and essential caregivers who have consented to receive the vaccine will be vaccinated on January 9, 2021. The follow-up dates for the second vaccines are January 24, January 29 and January 30, 2021 (remember to bring your COVID-19 Vaccination Records cards, please). Residents, staff and essential caregivers may receive the first vaccine during the January 24, 29 and 30th dates. We encourage all residents and staff who do not have medical contraindications for the COVID-19 vaccine to be vaccinated.

Since the last update, staff were antigen tested on January 4 and January 6, 2021. One C NA who works on the 2-400 ventilator unit and one Building Maintenance Worker who works on the 2-400 resident unit tested positive. Staff will be tested twice/week until further notice.

Residents continue to be tested weekly. One resident who lives on our respiratory unit tested positive, two residents who live on unit 1-400 and one resident who was previously positive in April and lives on our Pathway unit have tested positive. On January 5, 2021, all residents who live on unit 1-400 and did not refuse the test were antigen tested. Results from antigen testing are ready fifteen minutes after the test. The antigen testing was in addition to the weekly testing that was done on this unit on January 4, 2021. 110 results are pending for residents for weekly tests that were completed through January 6, 2021.

Due to the need for continuous oxygen for our resident who tested positive from the respiratory unit, we have opened a second positive cohort unit on 2-400 "C" because this unit has piped-in oxygen. The residents who were on the 2-400 C unit as an observation unit were transferred to the 2-400 D unit as the observation unit to meet the needs of our resident who requires continuous oxygen. 3-400 "C" continues to be a positive cohort unit.

Resident units 1-400, 2-400 ventilator unit, 3-200 and Pathway are on quarantine through January 18, with the exception of 3-200 which will end on January 16, 2021. Please note: Essential caregiver visitation is suspended on all units due to the facility-onset positive resident COVID cases.

New Jersey has established a Vaccine Scheduling System (NJVSS) <https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/> for the public to pre-register for the COVID-19 vaccine. Staff, residents and essential caregivers who will receive

their COVID vaccine at Preakness do not need to use this site.

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 COVID vaccine.

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 for her 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. At this point in time, outdoor visitation may occur for residents on units 1-200, 2-200, 1-300, 2-300 and 3-400. 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 also 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](http://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