



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, March 30, 2021

Celebrating National Social Work, Nutrition and Women's History Months

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.

This Update is written to provide the results from staff testing on March 29, 2021. 432 staff were tested on-site with antigen tests. The results for two staff were positive: one staff from the Dietary Department and one C NA who works on resident unit 3-200. In addition, one Nursing Supervisor who was tested on March 22, 2021, off-site, received a positive result on March 29, 2021. With the three positive results, we cannot have indoor or essential caregiver visitation. We currently have eight staff who are positive and are out of work. Two of the staff are expected to return on March 31, 2021.

Residents were tested on March 29 and March 30, 2021. All results were received from the March 29, 2021 testing; all were negative. Currently, one resident is positive on our 2-400 COVID+ unit.

We are in the process of scheduling on-site COVID-19 vaccination with the Johnson & Johnson one-dose vaccine for staff and residents. The vaccines will be offered to staff on Wednesday, April 7, 2021. Information and consent forms will be distributed at the Testing Registration table on March 31, 2021. Staff must complete the required paperwork and return it at the Testing Registration table on April 5, 2021. Damian Dymka, Assistant Nursing Supervisor will call the designated representatives for residents who are not vaccinated to inquire if the resident wishes to receive the vaccine. Written consent must be received prior to the vaccination.

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 care or end of life visits. Phone messages are checked each day including weekends. As of March 30, 2021 we can offer outdoor visitation (for all units except the 2-400 Observation Unit and the 2-400 COVID+ 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.

Happy Passover and Happy Easter to our residents and families who will celebrate Passover or Easter.

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