



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, May 26, 2021

**Celebrating Older Americans Month, Mental Health Month, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month,
Nurses Week and National Skilled Nursing Care Week**

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.

This letter is written to provide an Update on resident COVID test results. During the beginning of May, a resident was admitted who had been previously positive for COVID in another facility. At the time of the admission to Preakness, the COVID status was negative and our new resident's status remained negative during three consecutive weeks of testing. On May 25, 2021, we received a positive test result from a test done on May 24, 2021. Our 93 year old resident who tested positive lived on 1-400 at the time of her death on May 24, 2021. I have asked for guidance on how this positive test result will effect the status of future indoor visitation if we have 14 days of no other positive test results for residents or staff. Prior to this positive result, the last previous positive case was on May 17, 2021 for a staff member.

Staff were tested on May 20, 2021. All results were negative. Staff will be retested on May 27, 2021. We currently have seven staff who had positive test results who are out of work.

We are in the process of contacting all residents and/or their designated representatives and staff who are not vaccinated to offer the opportunity to receive either the Moderna or the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine on-site. To be in compliance with a new NJ Department of Health requirement, we must offer education and offer the vaccine even if it has been previously refused. 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. We may also offer the vaccines to the adult family members of our residents or staff. Written consent must be received prior to the vaccination. Information is available for staff at the Testing Registration table. A date will be scheduled in the near future for the vaccination clinic.

Hardeep Singh Deol, Assistant Nursing Supervisor recently achieved licensure as a Nurse Practitioner and has left our Home. We wish him well in his new career! Feel free to contact Daniel Nasulme, BSN, Acting Director of Nursing if you need assistance.

Please call 973-585-2145 to schedule outdoor, compassionate or end of life visits. Phone messages are checked each day.

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.

If there are concerns or questions for the Resident Council and you need to reach Theresa Nikithser, Vice 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 for Passaic County residents and COVID vaccines for eligible patients. Please see the Passaic County website (www.passaiccountynj.org) for the details.

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