



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

March 27, 2020

Dear Residents, Families, and Staff:

As the novel coronavirus situation continues to evolve, we must adapt and prepare for the reality that we may start having confirmed cases of COVID-19 at Preakness Healthcare Center.

On March 8, 2020, we proactively restricted visitors. In compliance with NJ Department of Health (DOH), Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS), we have been actively screening all employees daily for symptoms and exposure risks as per all DOH, CDC and CMS guidelines for infection control and prevention. We have restricted all volunteers and vendors, have restricted access by medical professionals to those with medical necessity to enter, have enhanced cleaning and disinfection, are practicing social distancing, have implemented universal masking for all staff and have provided personal protective equipment for staff, have cancelled all communal activities including communal dining and our residents are remaining in their rooms. All non-essential external medical appointments and visits for residents have been cancelled for scheduling at a future date. In addition, Passaic County has issued Administrative Order 20-02 to prohibit staff from outside employment to protect the residents and staff from exposure to COVID-19.

As part of our precautionary measures, residents who return from a hospital emergency room or who are discharged from hospital stays reside on a designated unit and isolation precautions are followed. Residents who may have symptoms for possible COVID-19 diagnosis are tested in the hospital and upon return, reside on the designated unit and isolation precautions are followed. Isolation precautions are implemented for presumptive COVID-19 pending the test results.

In addition, as part of our precautionary measures, staff who may have symptoms for possible COVID-19 diagnosis are restricted from work, are required to self-quarantine at home, contact their health care professional and report the symptoms to their local health department. We are working closely with the Passaic County Health Department and the local departments of health.

If in the future a resident or staff is confirmed to have a case of COVID-19, we will follow all CDC and health department instructions for infection prevention and control.

We are grateful to our staff who have continued to care for our residents during these challenging and unprecedented times. We appreciate the support of our residents and families.

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA
Executive Director

cc: Anthony DeNova, County Administrator
Kelly Ruffel, Deputy County Administrator
Dr. Magda Eraiba, Medical Director
Dr. Geoffrey Mugalu, Assistant Executive Director