



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, February 23, 2021

Celebrating Black History Month and Chinese New Year

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.

You may have heard on the news today that the NJ Department of Health is allowing indoor socially distanced visitation in nursing facilities in the Central West and Southwest regions of New Jersey due to the decrease in COVID-19 levels to the moderate level during the last 14 days in these regions. Although this does not yet apply to us because our region of New Jersey is still in the high level, when we are permitted to allow the indoor visitation, the requirements will be as follows:

- No new facility-onset COVID-19 cases are identified in the last 14 days;
- The facility is not conducting outbreak testing;
- There is a mechanism to collect informed consent from the residents and visitors;
- There is a designated location for indoor visitation;
- The facility has sufficient staff, a mechanism for appointments, and sufficient PPE and cleaning and disinfection supplies to permit safe visitation.

46 negative results were received from the resident testing on February 22, 2021. 70 resident test results are pending (three from February 22 and 67 from February 23). Currently, there are four residents on the COVID positive unit.

402 staff were tested on February 22, 2021 with antigen tests. One CNA who works on resident unit 1-200 tested positive. Residents who were exposed to the CNA are on quarantine status. Staff will be tested again on February 24, 2021 with saliva tests.

We will be celebrating Chinese New Year on February 25, 2021 with a special lunch for residents and staff. Entertainment will be broadcast through our inhouse TV system. Staff are invited to wear red or gold.

Thank you to Lorraine Stone who came yesterday during the snow to present a program in honor of Black History Month.

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 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, a compassionate visit or an end of life visit. Outdoor visitation may occur for residents who are not on isolation or quarantine. You may request an Essential Caregiver application from Mr. Perez. *Please note:* Essential caregiver visitation continues to be suspended on all units and will be suspended until there have been 14 days without a positive resident, facility-onset, case. Our last facility-onset case was on February 15, 2021.

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.

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