



# Preakness Healthcare Center

## A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, June 9, 2021

Celebrating National Nursing Assistants Week (June 17 – 23, 2021)

*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.*

Welcome back to our families and friends as we resume indoor visitation. A few reminders and answers to questions received to date regarding indoor visitation:

- Residents who are not suspected or confirmed to be infected with COVID-19, who are not quarantined for a COVID-19 exposure or who are not on isolation and who give written informed consent may receive visitors indoors during visiting hours.
- Residents who are suspected or confirmed to be infected with COVID-19, who are quarantined for a COVID-19 exposure or who are on isolation and who give written informed consent may have pre-scheduled compassionate or end of life visits.
- Designated visiting locations are: a resident's room with the permission of the roommate if the resident has a roommate; outdoor patios, sitting rooms, activity rooms, resident library and resident game room if not in use by residents. Please socially distance from other residents/visitors. Please do not approach roommates of residents for permission to visit. Please refer questions to the nurse or nursing supervisor.
- Children two years of age and older who can wear a face mask and socially distance may visit.
- Pets may not visit.
- Visiting hours are 10 am to 7 pm, seven days per week. Two visitors at any one time are permitted to visit.
- All visitors must wear a face mask provided by Preakness Healthcare Center and follow all infection prevention protocols of Preakness Healthcare Center.
- Visitors who are fully-vaccinated who are visiting a fully vaccinated resident may, within the resident's room if the roommate is not present, remove the face mask and have close contact.
- Visitors may bring food items for a resident that are consistent with the resident's dietary plan of care. Please refer questions to the nurse or dietitian.
- Visitors may bring items for a resident to the resident's room.
- Visitors who wish to feed a resident must be trained. Dining or assistance with dining is not permitted in any space except the resident's room. Please refer the request to be trained to a nursing supervisor who can be reached by calling 973-585-2131 or 973-617-7496.
- Visitors may resume bringing resident laundry from the facility to be laundered off-site if that is the resident/visitor's preference. Please transport the soiled laundry in a plastic bag.

If you prefer to visit outdoors and need assistance to schedule a visit, please call 973-585-2145. Outdoor, scheduled, visitation hours are 1:30 pm, 2:30 pm, 3:30 pm, 4:30 pm. If a virtual visit is requested, please call Alina Zalenski, Director of Therapeutic Recreation at 973-585-2124 or Lee Livingston, Senior Recreation

Therapist at 973-585-2163.

Residents who have a physician's order to go out on pass and are not on quarantine or isolation may do so. Please contact Tina Hucalla, Infection Preventionist at 973-585-2181 to discuss the process and receive the required education.

Our focus during the past week has been to facilitate indoor visitation. We are in the process of re-introducing resident group activities with capacity limits. At this point in time, visitors may not attend resident activities.

On May 26, 2021, Memorial Day was celebrated with our residents who are Veterans. We count among our Veteran residents,

- One resident who served in the Army in World War II
- One resident who served in the ARMY WACS in World War II
- One resident who served in the Army in the Korean War
- One resident who served in the National Guard for the Korean War
- One resident who served in the Marines during the Cuban Crisis
- One resident who served in the Air Force in the Vietnam War
- One resident who served in the Marines in the Vietnam War
- One resident who served in the Navy in the Vietnam War
- One Resident who served in the Army in the Vietnam War
- Three residents who served in the Army including one who was a Paratrooper
- Three residents who served in the Marines
- One resident who served in the Navy
- Two residents who served in the Air Force
- One resident who served in the Army Reserves

We thank all of our Veteran residents and staff for giving us our freedoms!

The staff of Plaza West on 1-300 conducted a creative "Hall of Fame Who Am I" contest for staff to learn more about our Plaza West residents. If you are visiting on Plaza West, please take a moment to review this wonderfully creative endeavor.

As summer approaches, we will begin our summer BBQs. In order to meet capacity limitations, each resident unit will initially have one BBQ luncheon. Additional BBQs will be scheduled as the Pandemic situation continues to improve.

We are planning a DJ Dance Party on June 17, 2021 on the rotunda patio, weather permitting, for our residents and staff.

We will celebrate Juneteenth with our residents and staff on June 19, 2021.

Staff continue to be tested weekly on Thursdays. Staff will be tested on June 10, 2021. We currently have two staff out of work who have tested positive (last test date May 17, 2021). We do not have any residents who have tested positive.

Four of our long-term residents recently passed away.

- Our 74 year old resident from 1-200 joined our family in June 2017. While she spent much time with her co-residents, her greatest enjoyment was the time she spent visiting with her family.
- Our 91 year old resident from 2-300 joined our family in June 2016. She especially enjoyed attending activities in our main street dining room when we were able to celebrate together pre-pandemic, with her family by her side.
- Our 89 year old resident from 2-400/1-200 first came to us in April 2021, went home, and returned in May 2021. As an experienced nurse, she enjoyed sharing comparisons to nursing when she was a nurse and her observations of nursing today.
- Our 93 year old resident from 1-200 joined our family in August 2019. During the Pandemic she remained ever hopeful and positive for better days. An avid reader, she shared many interesting conversations with us.

We offer our condolences to our residents' families, their co-residents and thank our staff who have taken care of our residents.

Please be advised that our hair stylists are on Leave and the hair salon is temporarily closed.

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 or if you are new to Preakness and have not had the opportunity to become familiar with our Home due to COVID restrictions, to arrange a time to meet with Dr. Mugalu.

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.

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](http://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