



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, June 12, 2020

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.

Since the last Update, we have been working on the development of procedures to begin a new “normal” way of resident life. Our residents accompanied by staff have been enjoying the beautiful weather in our rotunda courtyard following all of the requirements for social distancing. We are preparing to reopen our hair salon on June 22. Since the salon has been closed for three months and many residents wish to have haircuts, we will initially only offer haircuts and then phase in other services such as perms. To be fair, we will schedule appointments in numerical order of the resident units and alphabetical order within the units. On June 15, we will reopen our rehab “gym” that has been closed for three months, first for skilled rehab and then phase in our self-exercise programs. We are also developing a policy for on-site, urgent physician visits that cannot be accommodated by the use of virtual technology. Physicians will be required to test negative for COVID-19 as is the requirement for staff.

Much of our efforts involve the weekly retesting of residents and staff. Fortunately, we have not had a resident with a new positive test result since May 19. From the weekly testing of all staff that began on May 27, for the results that were received, we have not had a staff person with a new positive test result since June 4. There are many retest results for residents and staff from last week pending and this week’s results are pending.

The following is the cumulative update for our current census of 297 residents and staff:

- Since March 25, we have had one hundred nine residents test positive for COVID-19. The cumulative total includes seventeen residents who were positive and have twice tested negative, thirty-three residents who were positive and have retested once as negative; twenty four residents who tested positive and passed away and one resident who passed away who was presumed positive. Four residents returned from the hospital this week. Four residents remain hospitalized.
- One hundred staff have tested positive. Seventy-two staff have returned to work.

Next week (June 18 – 25), we will begin our celebration of Certified Nursing Assistants Week. CNAs are recognized nationally this year with the theme of CARE: Compassionate, Attentive,

Reliable, Exceptional. Our CNAs provide most of the “hands-on care” for our residents helping them with activities of daily living such as eating, bathing, dressing and provide companionship. Through all of the challenges of the Pandemic, our CNAs have been at the forefront to take care of our residents and show they CARE. We are proud and grateful for their work!

As a reminder, Passaic County is now offering free COVID-19 testing at home for Passaic County residents. Please see the Passaic County website for the details.

To date, nursing homes have still not received approval from the NJ DOH to allow visitation. We continue to arrange compassionate end of life visits by family members. These visits require that the family member who will visit tests negative within one week of the visit.

As always, many thanks for the work of our staff and the continued support of our residents, families, our colleagues throughout Passaic County, the community and those who assist in the testing of residents and staff during these challenging and emotional times. ***Preakness Strong
Heroes Do Work Here!***

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA
Executive Director