



# Preakness Healthcare Center

## A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, June 7, 2020

Please note: This Update is posted on the Passaic County website, the Passaic County Facebook Page, distributed through the Constant Contact email group to 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.

As shared in the last Update, on June 3 we had an unannounced Infection Control COVID Focused Survey by the NJ Department of Health. I am proud to announce that we were determined to be in full compliance. We appreciate the work of all staff to provide for our residents each and every day, but especially during the Pandemic.

To date, as we continue the weekly retesting of residents who have previously tested negative, no residents have tested positive! Except for 18 negative results that were received this afternoon, results from the June 2 through June 5 retests are pending.

On the May 27 retest of residents who are COVID+ on the 3-400 resident unit, four residents received their second negative test result for the discontinuation of the transmission-based precautions. The results of the retest of residents who are COVID + on 3-400 that were done on June 3 are pending. The next retest on this unit is on June 10.

Residents who have tested positive on the 1-300 and Pathway resident units were retested on June 1. Thirty-two residents who are COVID + received their first negative test results! The next retest on these units is on June 8.

373 staff were tested during the week of May 26 to May 30. Two staff tested positive. 385 staff were retested during the week of June 1 through June 5. All results are pending.

On June 6, we were saddened to learn that one of our residents who was COVID+ and was in the hospital since the beginning of May passed away. His positive and happy outlook on life was contagious. We offer our condolences to his family, his friends and his co-residents and thank our staff who provided his care.

The following is the cumulative update for our current census of 292 residents and staff:

- Since March 25, we have had one hundred nine residents test positive for COVID-19. This cumulative total includes seventeen residents who were positive and have twice tested negative; thirty two residents who were positive and retested once as negative;

twenty four residents COVID+ who expired and one resident who was COVID presumptive who expired. Five residents are hospitalized.

- One hundred staff have tested positive. This includes one staff who had tested positive on March 30 and was not included in the previous cumulative count. Sixty-nine staff have returned to work.

The Office of the NJ Ombudsman recently issued guidance on the use of the CARES Act stimulus payments to nursing home residents. We will distribute the guidance to the Constant Contact email group and to our residents on Monday, June 8. You may also send an email to me for a copy. The guidance includes:

- The spending is directed by the resident and is not in any way controlled by the facility. The resident must spend the money on themselves as any transfer of money to others could be reviewed as a transfer of assets and could affect Medicaid eligibility. Residents may receive the cash allocations in any amount requested by the resident.
- The stimulus funds do not count as an asset for 12 months.
- An alert and oriented resident may give the funds to a POA or person designated by the resident. Records must be maintained on how the funds were spent for the benefit of the resident.
- The POA of a resident who is not alert and oriented must be asked how the POA wishes the funds to be handled. Records must be maintained on how the funds were spent for the benefit of the resident.

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

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