



# Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, December 22, 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.

This Update is written to share with you that additional positive test results were received for staff. During the Outbreak that began on November 29, 2021 through December 22, 2021, ten staff have tested positive. Three of the staff tested positive since the last Update.

- On December 20, 2021, one staff who is fully vaccinated from our Security staff tested positive off-site. By the nature of her work, she did not have contact with residents.
- On December 22, 2021, one of our Buildings and Grounds staff who is not vaccinated tested positive off-site.
- On December 22, 2021, our C NA who works on our Pathway Behavior Management Unit and who is fully-vaccinated was tested off-site. All residents on this unit will be tested on December 23, 2021 and two additional times during a fourteen day period following exposure.

We are continuing to offer COVID vaccinations for residents and staff for first, second or booster doses. Vaccination questions or messages may be left on the phone number dedicated to COVID-19 vaccination: **973-585-2100**. Our next COVID vaccination clinics for residents and staff will be on December 29, 2021. *We encourage all residents, staff and visitors to be vaccinated and receive a booster dose if eligible.* Unvaccinated staff are tested twice/week. Residents and staff exposed to our staff who have tested positive are tested twice during a fourteen day period following exposure. We can also offer antigen testing to visitors who wish to be tested.

New Jersey has a mandate for all staff in a health care facility to receive an influenza vaccine by December 31, 2021 unless the staff has a medical exemption that meets the requirements identified by the NJ Department of Health.

Our new resident choir, under the direction of Juan Hartkopf and Christine Pearce, Recreation Therapists made their debut today performing a holiday concert featuring Christmas and Kwanza songs. They were fabulous! Due to COVID restrictions, in-person attendance was limited. The concert was broadcast live on our in-house TV station. We look forward to their next performance.

On December 23, 2021, weather-permitting, from 5 pm to 6 pm, Salomone Brothers will bring their holiday decorated trucks to wish our residents Merry Christmas. The trucks will travel throughout our parking lots so that residents will be able to view the trucks through our windows.

The Pandemic has affected the American workforce. We currently have job opportunities for Nursing Supervisors, Social Workers, Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Recreation Therapy Aides and Food Services Workers. Feel free to provide my contact information to healthcare workers looking for a very rewarding career as a member of our team.

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, LNHA, Assistant Executive Director may be reached at 973-585-2113 or Daniel Nasulme, RN, BSN, Director of Nursing may be reached at 973-585-1409 to address any concerns.

As always, many thanks for the work of our staff, their sacrifices and the continued support we receive during these challenging and emotional times. And, special thanks for the understanding from our residents and their families as the regulatory directives and protocols for COVID continue to evolve. ***Preakness Strong Heroes Continue to Work Here!***

We wish our residents, families and friends a Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanza and Healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA  
Executive Director