



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, January 13, 2022

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 is written to provide an Update as of January 13, 2022 of the Outbreak that began on November 29, 2021:

- Forty residents tested positive.
 - Thirty-seven residents are fully vaccinated; twenty-eight had a booster
 - Four residents have been hospitalized
 - Ten residents returned to their unit
 - One resident, who has been our resident since 1992, passed away. We offer our condolences to her family and thank our staff who have provided her care for thirty years.

- One-hundred thirty-two staff tested positive. The last positive results were on January 13, 2022.
 - One hundred-four staff who tested positive are fully vaccinated
 - Two staff are partially vaccinated
 - Twenty-seven staff had a booster
 - Eight-six staff have returned to work or are cleared to return on January 14, 2022

- Six visitors tested positive.

We are very thankful and appreciative for the assistance from the National Guard who have been deployed to assist our residents. The team will be with us this week through Sunday, January 16, 2022. "Our" team has been professional, eager to do any task within the scope of their engagement, and quick to learn. Our residents are enjoying the socialization they provide.

Many, many thanks to our staff from all departments who are helping their co-workers in departments with staffing challenges due to COVID!! And, many thanks to the staff who have completed the Feeding Assistant program to be able to feed our residents who need assistance. And, thanks to our test team including their clerical support, who have been testing residents and staff since the Pandemic began in 2020.

Our Director of Nursing and Infection Preventionist contact-trace the exposure of residents by staff who test positive and review with our Medical Director to establish testing timeframes and transmission-based precautions. Nursing staff continue to contact the designated representatives for residents who were exposed to the staff or resident within a 48-hour timeframe. Daniel Nasulme, Director of Nursing (973-585-1409) or Tina Hucalla, Infection Preventionist (973-585-2181) may be called to discuss specific

circumstances. Residents who test positive reside on resident unit 2-400 "C and D" during the quarantine period.

At this point in time and until further notice, we request that visitors be limited to two visitors at one time for each resident. If there are circumstances for which this is a hardship, please contact Alina Zalenski, Director of Therapeutic Recreation at 973-585-2124 and we will try to accommodate your request. Antigen testing is available for visitors who wish to be tested.

COVID vaccinations for residents and staff for first, second or booster doses are scheduled as we have enough residents and/or staff who wish to be vaccinated to use a full vial of the vaccine to avoid wasting doses of the vaccine. Vaccination questions or messages may be left on the phone number dedicated to COVID-19 vaccination: **973-585-2100**. *We encourage all residents, staff and visitors to be vaccinated and receive a booster dose if eligible.* Unvaccinated staff are tested twice/week.

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, and especially at this point in the Pandemic, 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!***

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA
Executive Director