



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, January 7, 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 7, 2022 of the Outbreak that began on November 29, 2021:

- Seventeen residents tested positive.
 - Sixteen residents are fully vaccinated; twelve had a booster
 - Two residents were hospitalized; both returned from the hospital
 - One resident returned to her unit

- One-hundred fourteen staff tested positive. The last positive results were on January 7, 2022.
 - Eighty-eight staff who tested positive are fully vaccinated
 - One staff is partially vaccinated
 - Eighteen staff had a booster
 - Forty-five staff have returned to work or are cleared to return on January 8, 2022
 - The number of staff who test positive include staff on leaves of absence who test positive during the leave or staff who test positive upon return from scheduled time off.

- Six visitors tested positive.

Preliminary analysis of staff who tested positive include:

- Nurses/Nursing management: 22
- C NAs and related staff: 42
- Dietary staff: 22
- Security: 4
- Social Services: 3
- Therapeutic Recreation: 5
- Environmental Services: 6
- Admissions: 1
- Buildings and Grounds: 4
- Respiratory Therapy: 2
- Rehabilitation: 1
- Clerical: 2

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" during the quarantine period.

On January 6, 2022, Governor Murphy announced the deployment of the National Guard to assist long-term care facilities with COVID-19 response efforts and to augment facilities' staffing. The Guard will provide routine assistance to residents. We anticipate that a Guard team may be assigned to Preakness on Monday, January 10, 2022. We will share more information as it becomes available.

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. Antigen testing is available for visitors who wish to be tested.

Thank you to our staff from many departments who have completed the "Temporary Feeding Assistant" course to be able to feed our residents with our CNAs and nurses.

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