

aic Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, April 19, 2022 Celebrating National Arab American Heritage Month and National County Government Month

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 on April 18, 2022, a Security Officer tested positive for COVID. Due to the nature of the security assignment, there wasn't resident contact. On April 19, 2022, a nurse who works on our unit with residents who are on ventilators tested positive. Residents on this unit will be tested on April 21 and April 26, 2022. We continue to follow all precautionary infection prevention measures and regulatory requirements.

As of April 19, 2022, our COVID-19 vaccination rates are as follows:

- 96% of staff are fully vaccinated.
- 97% of staff who are eligible for a booster received a booster and are up-to-date.
- 93% of residents are fully vaccinated.
- 88% of residents who are eligible for a booster received a booster and are up-to-date.

We will offer boosters to residents and staff in accordance with the CDC updated recommendations to allow certain immunocompromised individuals and people over the age of 50 who received an initial booster dose at least four months ago to be eligible for another mRNA booster to increase their protection against severe disease from COVID-19. The CDC recommends that adults who received a primary vaccine and booster dose of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine at least four months ago may receive a second booster dose using an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccines will be offered on-site with the consent of the resident and/or legal representative or designated representative. Vaccine questions or messages may be left on voicemail **973-585-2145**. Your call will be returned by a nursing supervisor.

With the assistance and support of many, our residents celebrated Passover and Easter. Many thanks to:

- Rabbi Randy Mark from Shomrei Torah for the prayer service and Seder for Passover.
- Father James Moss and Sister Patricia Avicolli for the masses on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter.
- Our Dietary staff, especially Ettore Turano, Cook and Elaine Rogozinski, Cook, for the Easter Sunday luncheon.
- Our Easter Bunny, Linu John, Recreation Therapy Aide, for the Easter visits.

 All staff who assisted and cared for our residents to enable our residents to enjoy the holidays.

We will continue our celebrations on April 25, 2022 with a prayer service for Ramadan at 2 pm in our main dining room. On April 27, 2022, we will celebrate National Arab American Heritage Month with a special luncheon for residents and staff. In addition, we will have musical entertainment at 2:30 pm in our main dining room. On May 2, 2022, we will celebrate Eid al Fitr, the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast, with a special luncheon for residents and staff. Following COVID protocols, all celebrations are limited to resident participation without visitors present.

This week, "Careers in Aging Week" is celebrated. We currently have job opportunities for Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Recreation Therapy Aides, Security Officers, Food Service Workers and a Medical Records Administrator. Feel free to provide my contact information to healthcare workers looking for a very rewarding career as a member of our team.

The NJ Long-Term Care Ombudsman is offering a free webinar on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. The topic is "The 25 Most Common Nursing Home Problems and How to Resolve Them". Please see the website www.nj.gov/ooie for information.

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, Daniel Nasulme, RN, BSN, Director of Nursing may be reached at 973-585-1409 or Aleyamma John, RN, BSN, Assistant Director of Nursing may be reached at 862-345-5911 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!**

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA Executive Director