



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, June 3, 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.

Thank you to all who assisted us on May 25, 2022, with our Memorial Day parade that included a Distinguished Service Medal ceremony by our County Commissioners for our Veteran residents and staff. We enjoyed a memorable event as we remembered those who have sacrificed their lives for our continued freedoms and we took the opportunity to thank our Veterans. Proudly displayed in our rotunda are the service banners for our Veterans.

Since the last Update, one staff with nursing management responsibilities tested positive with a test that was performed on June 1, 2022; results were received on June 2, 2022. The last day worked prior to the positive test result was June 2, 2022. Due to the nature of staff's responsibilities, there wasn't resident contact. On June 2, 2022, a resident who was admitted on May 30, 2022 to resident unit 1-200 tested positive during the testing of new residents. Our resident was transferred to the COVID positive cohort on resident unit 2-400, "C" section. Both the staff and resident who tested positive were up to date with COVID vaccination requirements.

The current outbreak began on April 18, 2022. Twelve staff have tested positive. Eleven of the twelve staff completed the primary series of vaccination; one has an approved exemption. Six of the eleven vaccinated staff received boosters. We continue to follow all precautionary infection prevention measures and regulatory requirements.

Weather-permitting, our resident BBQ season will begin on June 22, 2022. BBQs are held each Wednesday during the summer in the rotunda courtyard at lunch time. The schedule of BBQs will be available at the entrance Security desk. Because we are still in Outbreak, participation is limited to residents.

This week we said good-bye to three of our long-term care residents who passed away, including the Vice President of the Resident Council. We offer our condolences to their families and co-residents and thank our staff who have taken care of our residents.

On June 9 and June 10, 2022, from 7 am to 4 pm, the work to replace electrical transformers with energy-efficient transformers will continue for the 300s section of our Home. Details and instructions will be provided for residents, staff and visitors.

The project to install solar panels has begun. Workers are currently installing the infrastructure for the panels on the roof of the 300s section of our Home and are doing preparatory work in the rear grass areas (visible from the "aviary" rooms).

COVID-19 Vaccines are offered to residents and staff in accordance with current CDC recommendations. Please call Patrick Kuiken, RN, Infection Preventionist at 973-585-2181 for additional information. We have antigen tests available for visitors who wish to be tested prior to visiting. If interested, please inform Security staff when you arrive for the entrance screening.

We currently have job opportunities for Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Recreation Therapy Aides, Security Officers and Food Service 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, 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