



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, June 16, 2022

Celebrating Certified Nursing Assistants Week, Juneteenth and Father's Day

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.

June 16, 2022, begins the national weekly recognition and celebration of Certified Nursing Assistants who provide the "hands-on" care to our residents and offer companionship. Various recognition themes are suggested including, "I'm Still Standing" as a tribute to how indispensable CNAs are to residents especially in light of the past two Pandemic years. With much appreciation to our CNAs who are proud, passionate, professionals!

When we celebrated and thanked our Veteran residents and staff on May 25, 2022, we were not aware that Eugenio Staplar, Senior Security Guard, was also a Veteran and we missed the opportunity to thank him for his service. Mr. Staplar was an active-duty Marine from 1977 to 1981. We have added his service banner to our "Circle of Heroes" in our rotunda. We hope you'll take a moment to view our Heroes and reflect on their sacrifices when you visit.

Since the last Update, we learned on June 15, 2022, that one staff with maintenance responsibilities tested positive on June 14, 2022. The last day worked prior to the positive test result was on June 13, 2022. Due to the nature of the staff's responsibilities, there wasn't resident contact.

The current outbreak began on April 18, 2022. Thirteen staff and one resident have tested positive. Twelve of the thirteen staff completed the primary series of vaccination; one has an approved exemption. Eight staff received boosters. We currently do not have any residents who are positive for COVID-19. We continue to follow all precautionary infection prevention measures and regulatory requirements.

We will celebrate Father's Day with a dance party for our residents on June 17, 2022, and with a special luncheon on Sunday, June 19, 2022. Juneteenth will be celebrated with a presentation by Lorraine Stone and a luncheon for residents and staff on June 20, 2022. Weather-permitting, our resident BBQ season will begin on June 22, 2022, in the rotunda courtyard at lunch time. The schedule of BBQs is available at the entrance Security desk. Because we are still in Outbreak, participation is limited to residents.

The project to install solar panels is in progress. Workers are continuing to install the infrastructure for the panels on the roofs and are digging the trenches for the electrical conduits.

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 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