



# Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, July 7, 2022  
Celebrating the Fourth of July

*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.

Since the last Update, four staff tested positive for COVID-19. On July 5, 2022, a security officer tested positive while on duty. On July 6, 2022, one clerical support staff tested positive; last day worked was on July 5, 2022. On July 7, 2022, one nurse from resident unit 3-400 tested positive; last day worked was on July 5, 2022, and one C NA from resident unit 2-400/Respiratory (Vent) tested positive after completing work. Ten staff are currently out of work. Residents on the respiratory unit were tested on July 7, 2022; results are pending. There wasn't close contact between the nurse and residents on resident unit 3-400. The three residents who tested positive on July 2, 2022, are on the positive cohort unit on 2-400 "C".

The current outbreak began on April 18, 2022. Twenty-eight staff and four residents have tested positive. Twenty-four of the twenty-eight staff completed the primary series of vaccination; four have approved exemptions. Twenty staff received first boosters; one received a second booster. Four of the four residents completed the primary series of vaccination. Three residents received a first booster.

Residents who are on the positive cohort unit may have visitors wearing the required personal protective equipment that we provide on the unit.

The CDC recently changed its definition of "up to date" with COVID vaccines to include receipt of the 2<sup>nd</sup> booster for individuals older than 50 years who are eligible. The requirements for vaccination for healthcare workers in New Jersey have not changed to mandate a 2<sup>nd</sup> booster. 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.

There are several medications for the treatment of COVID that have emergency use authorization by the FDA with specific criteria for use. The use of these medications if prescribed by a resident's attending physician require that the physician obtain the informed consent of the resident (if the resident makes their own decisions) or the person legally authorized to consent for the resident. The emergency use authorization informed consent process includes that the fact sheet for the medication must be provided to the resident/authorized representative.

Each day, weather-permitting, staff accompany residents who wish to go outdoors on the rotunda patio during the hours of 1:30 to 4:00 pm. The use of the rotunda patio is limited to residents. Residents who wish to visit outdoors with their guests may use the patio that is directly behind the main entrance. This

patio is open during times that it is light outdoors. Three visitor enclosures were installed to provide covered visiting areas.

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. A nursing supervisor is available for emergent issues by calling the nursing supervisor cell phone, 973-617-7496.

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