



# Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, July 15, 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.

Since the last Update, two staff tested positive for COVID-19. On July 11, 2022, a C NA from resident unit 1-400 tested positive after completing work. Residents with close contact were tested and the results were negative. On July 14, 2022, one management support staff tested positive; last day worked was on July 10, 2022. Six staff are currently out of work. We currently do not have any residents who have tested positive.

The current outbreak began on April 18, 2022. Thirty-two staff and four residents have tested positive. Twenty-seven of the thirty-two staff completed the primary series of vaccination; five have approved exemptions. Twenty-two staff received first boosters; two received a second booster. All of the residents completed the primary series of vaccination. Three of the four residents received a first booster.

With the CDC's recently revised 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 and the high COVID transmission rate in Passaic County, we will begin to test staff twice/week as required. 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.

This week we said good-bye to one of our residents who has been part of our family since December 1998. We offer our condolences to his family and thank our staff who have taken care of him for twenty-three years.

Thanks to the generosity of the Wayne Rotary, "Santa Claus" will celebrate Christmas in July with our residents on Saturday, July 23, 2022 at 3:00 pm in our main dining room. Because we are in outbreak status, this activity (and all resident activities) are limited to participation by residents.

Fr. James Moss celebrates Catholic Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 pm in the main dining room. Sunday Mass is celebrated virtually and may be viewed on our inhouse television station.

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