



# Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, August 9, 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.

One staff and five residents tested positive for COVID-19 since the last Update. On August 8, 2022, we were notified that a Food Services Worker had tested positive prior to return from vacation; last day worked was on July 27, 2022. On August 9, 2022, five residents who live on resident unit 1-400 tested positive. Our residents have had the primary series of vaccination with one booster. With the exception of two residents who refused testing, all residents on 1-400 were tested and will be tested again following CDC requirements. All staff who worked on the 1-400 unit during the past 48 hr. are in the process of being tested and will also be retested following CDC requirements.

The current outbreak began on April 18, 2022. Thirty-seven staff and eleven residents have tested positive. Five of the staff are not vaccinated and have approved exemptions. Twenty-eight staff received first boosters; three received a second booster. Nine residents received a first booster; one received a second booster. Two staff are currently out of work. Our residents who tested positive are residing on 2-400, "C" section, the section for residents who test positive for COVID.

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. To date, 78 residents and 118 staff have received second boosters. Antigen tests are available for visitors who wish to be tested. Please inform the Security staff when visiting.

Work is proceeding on the installation of solar panels. On August 4, 2022, during the construction, a gas line in the rear of the building was damaged. It was necessary as a precaution to temporarily transfer residents on 2-400 and 3-400, "B" sections with windows facing the rear of the building to vacant rooms on the units. Thank you to staff who assisted with the temporary transfers and to our residents for their patience during the repair. On Thursday, August 11, 2022 during daytime hours, drilling is scheduled to occur in the rear of the building. Noise is anticipated.

The Fashion Show on August 8, 2022, with our resident and staff models was enjoyed by our residents. Thank you to resident Cynthia C for the idea and organization of the event, the staff who assisted, our models and entertainer "Julian". Suzanne McEvoy, Director of Volunteers and Community Relations took photos of our models and will provide the photos to each resident who participated.

Casino Day is scheduled for August 12, 2022. Games will include "Blackjack, Roulette, Poker and Slot Machines". Because we are in Outbreak status, participation is limited to residents and staff.

As a reminder, Passaic County has partnered with agencies and schools to provide donated school supplies to children. Donation receptacles are in our main and employee entrances for those who wish to donate supplies. Thank you for your anticipated generosity!

Job opportunities are available 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