

## **Preakness Healthcare Center**

## A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, January 2, 2023

*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, Therapeutic Recreation staff and Unit Clerks distribute the Update to residents who wish to receive it.

With wishes for a healthy and happy New Year, this Update includes that three staff and one resident tested positive since the last Update: one staff with administrative support responsibilities, two Security Guards, and one resident who lives on resident unit 2-200. Residents and staff who had close contact with the staff who tested positive are tested in accordance with regulatory requirements. Residents who tested positive are residing on unit 2-400 "C" section until transmission-based precautions are discontinued. We currently have two residents on resident unit 2-400 "C".

On December 28, 2022, Judith Persichilli, RN, BSN, MA, Commissioner of the NJ Department of Health, informed nursing facilities that the State and the Country are heading into another surge of COVID-19. She cited in her letter that the virus has been most deadly to those individuals who are over the age of 80. According to Commissioner Persichilli, it is imperative that every single eligible person in congregate settings has the most protection against the COVID-19 virus. She advised to follow infection prevention protocols and become vaccinated if eligible. To date, 80% of our residents and 46% of staff received the bivalent booster.

Patrick Kuiken, RN, Infection Preventionist is continuing to administer the vaccines to those who are eligible and who consent to receive a vaccine. He can be reached at 973-585-2181 to answer any questions or to schedule the administration of the vaccine.

Future resident events beginning at 2 pm in our Home's main dining room include:

- DJ Dance Party/Kwanzaa celebration on January 5, 2023
- Birthday Party on January 11, 2023
- Resident Fashion Show on January 20, 2023
- Latin Dance party on January 25, 2023
- "Elton John" on January 28, 2023
- Dance Program on January 30, 2023

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, 973-585-2113; Daniel Nasulme, RN, BSN, Director of Nursing, 973-585-1409; Aleyamma John, RN, BSN, Assistant Director of Nursing, 862-345-5911 are available 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