

Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, January 10, 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.

As we continue COVID testing of staff twice/week who are not up to date with the bivalent booster, one Security guard tested positive on January 9, 2023. 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".

The NJ Department of Health continues to urge residents and staff to become vaccinated as the safest and most effective protection against COVID-19 and its variants, noting that the new bivalent vaccine is formulated to work against the original COVID virus and the most recent variant, Omicron. The NJ Department of Health recommends the viewing of video https://youtu.be/WgRbAKFWY4s on YouTube. We will have a "vaccine clinic" on January 12, 2023 during the hours that staff are tested for COVID; see the posted flyers for details. Residents or staff who wish to receive a vaccine before this date may contact Patrick Kuiken, RN, LTC-CIP, Infection Preventionist who 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 prior to January 12, 2023.

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

- Birthday Party, January 11, 2023
- Martin Luther King Jr., Presentation, January 16, 2023
- Sentimental Musical Journey, January 18, 2023
- Resident Fashion Show, January 20, 2023
- Latin Dance Party, January 25, 2023
- "Elton John", January 28, 2023
- Dance Program, January 30, 2023
- Chinese New Year, February 1, 2023
- Black History Month, February 8, 2023

Ron Pangilinan has provided computer support to residents and staff for many years He will retire on January 13, 2023. We thank him for his endless patience as he solved our problems and taught us how to use various programs/applications. Best wishes for a retirement filled with health and happiness!

The solar panels energy project has reached the construction stage that connections will begin to be made into our electrical systems. Weather-permitting, there will be a two-hour period on January 18, 2023 and January 19, 2023 during which time our power will be supplied by our emergency generator.

The emergency generator will supply power to life safety systems and emergency lighting. Resident equipment such as beds, concentrators, feeding pumps will be plugged into the red electrical emergency outlets before the work begins. Resident TVs will not be operational. Additional information will be provided when the plans are finalized.

Job opportunities are available for Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Business Office Director, Food Services Director, Food Service Workers, Social Worker/MSW and Registered Dietitian. 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, 973-585-2113; Daniel Nasulme, RN, BSN, LTC-CIP, 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