



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, March 23, 2023

Celebrating Ramadan, Women's History, Nutrition and Social Services Months

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.

We wish all who are observing Ramadan a blessed Ramadan.

Thank you to Tessa Payer, Museum Specialist from the Passaic County Department of Cultural & Historic Affairs for the fascinating presentation on March 22, 2023 on "Researching the Women of the Van Riper-Hopper House" that is located in Wayne, NJ. Her presentation took us back into the lives of the women beginning in the 1800s in the Wayne and Paterson areas. In addition, thank you to the Step Dancers from the Ridgewood Irish Dance Studio for bringing their energetic performance to our residents on March 18, 2023. They were incredible to watch!

On March 21, 2023, a C NA who worked on resident unit 2-200 tested positive. Residents and staff who have close contact with staff who test positive are tested in accordance with regulatory requirements. Presently, we do not have any residents who have tested positive for COVID-19 who are on transmission-based precautions.

Please join us in welcoming Teresa Turin Solano, Business Office Director. Ms. Solano brings many years of healthcare accounting and business experience to us. She may be reached at 973-585-2184 or by email at tsolano@passaiccountynj.org.

Future resident events beginning at 2:00 pm in our Home's main dining room include:

- Friday at the Movies (Easter Sunday), March 24, 2023
- Jewish Songs from Around the World, March 29, 2023
- "Big Bingo" on March 27, 2023

Spiritual services at 2:00 pm include:

- Ramadan prayer service, March 28, 2023
- Palm Sunday Mass, April 2, 2023
- Passover Seder, April 3, 2023
- Holy Thursday Mass, April 6, 2023
- Good Friday Service, April 7, 2023
- Easter Sunday Mass, April 9, 2023

Beginning on March 26, 2023, Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 2:00 pm each Sunday. Please note the time change from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm.

Save the date! We will resume our family holiday dinner celebrations on Mother's Day, May 14, 2023. Each resident may invite three guests. Details to follow.

During the admission process, residents and resident representatives are asked to specify who is to receive personal and/or business-related mail. Please be reminded that if the preference is that Preakness does not handle a resident's business-related mail, the resident's authorized representative must pick up the mail at least once/month for timely processing of any invoices/co-pays, correspondence from Social Security, Medicaid, insurance companies, etc. Please contact Brian Ommundsen, Senior Accountant at 973-585-5921 or by email at bommundsen@passaiccountynj.org to arrange to pick up the mail or for Mr. Ommundsen to answer any questions.

As previously noted, on February 21, 2023, residents from units 2-400 "B" section and 3-400 "B" section were temporarily transferred to other sections of our Home for a pending fire alarm system repair. After assessing options with fire officials, the work will be included in the project to replace the fire alarm system for the 200s and 400s sections of our Home that was already designed and is pending regulatory approval to begin the replacement. The duration of the temporary transfer is under review pending the anticipated project start date. Resident rooms that were vacated are reserved for the future return of residents to their rooms.

Job opportunities are available for an Environmental Services Supervisor, Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Food Services Director, Food Service Workers, Cooks, 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.

The New Jersey Department of Health urges residents and staff to become vaccinated as the safest and most effective protection against COVID-19 and its variants. Residents or staff who wish to receive a vaccine may contact Patrick Kuiken, RN, LTC-CIP, Infection Preventionist at 973-585-2181.

The Passaic County Health Department offers free radon kits that are available at the County's Health Department, which is located at 930 Riverview Drive, Totowa. You may email Christian A. Okpukpara, Passaic County's Right to Know Coordinator at christiano@passaiccountynj.org or call Mr. Okpukpara at 973-225-3651 to arrange to pick up a radon kit.

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