



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, April 6, 2023

Celebrating Passover, Easter and Ramadan

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 Passover, Easter or Ramadan blessed holidays!

Governor Murphy on April 3, 2023, issued Executive Order #325. This Executive Order rescinds the requirement for routine COVID test screening and reaffirms that COVID-19 vaccination continues to be required under Executive Order #294. We are, therefore, testing residents and staff for COVID following risk-based assessments that may be modified due to increased transmission rates in the future:

- Residents: Criteria include new admissions; returns from hospital stays or readmissions; symptomatic and/or exposure to COVID.
- Staff who are in compliance with Executive Order #294 for COVID vaccination with completion of a primary series of vaccination and the first booster for which staff is eligible: Criteria include symptomatic and/or exposure to COVID.
- Staff who are in compliance with Executive Order #294 with approved vaccine exemptions: will test once/week at a test location outside of Preakness and will continue to wear an N-95 mask.

On April 6 2023, a C NA who works on our Pathway unit 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.

Thank you to Rabbi Randy Mark for celebrating the Passover Seder with our residents and the prayers that he offered. Thank you to our staff who assisted in providing the food items for the Seder.

With the upcoming Passover and Easter holidays, special events in the Main Dining Room will not be scheduled until after the holidays. Spiritual services at 2:00 pm include:

- Good Friday Service, April 7, 2023
- Easter Sunday Mass, April 9, 2023

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

- Jazz Band Concert, April 12, 2023
- Birthday Party, April 14, 2023

- Baseball Opening Day and DJ Dance Party, April 17, 2023 (on the rotunda patio)
- Horticulture program, April 19, 2023
- Eid Al-Fitr Celebration, April 21, 2023
- “Elton John” Concert, April 22, 2023

The Passaic County Department of Health Services is collecting eyeglasses for donation to the Lions Club. Collection boxes are located at the main entrance of our Home.

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 Julie Tesauro, Account Clerk at 973-585-2114 or by email at jtesauro@passaiccountynj.org to arrange to pick up the mail or for Ms. Tesauro to answer any questions.

The regulatory approval to begin fire alarm system project for the 200s and 400s sections of our Home is pending approval. 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.

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