



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, April 21, 2023

Celebrating National Arab American Heritage Month

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.

The Commissioner of the NJ Department of Health issued a statement on April 20, 2023 regarding the CDC's recommendations for COVID-19 bivalent vaccines. The recommendations are available on the NJ Department of Health website. Residents or staff who have questions or wish to receive a vaccine may contact Patrick Kuiken, RN, LTC-CIP, Infection Preventionist at 973-585-2181. We currently do not have any residents or staff on transmission-based precautions for COVID-19.

The April 2023 issue of "The Beacon" published by the New Jersey Office of the Long-term Care Ombudsman includes information regarding the 2023 Medicaid Redetermination process that was paused due to COVID. Residents' representatives who have elected to receive the business mail for residents will receive this correspondence and are reminded to timely complete the process to continue Medicaid coverage.

Congratulations to Adherly Diaz on his promotion to Assistant Maintenance Supervisor!

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

- "Elton John" Concert, April 22, 2023
- Pet Therapy dogs visit (on the rotunda patio), April 24, 2023 at 2:30 pm
- Hinchcliffe Stadium History Presentation, April 26, 2023
- Pet Therapy dogs visit (on the rotunda patio), April 28, 2023 at 2:30 pm
- Cinco de Mayo Celebration, May 5, 2023
- Birthday Party, May 10, 2023
- Sentimental Journey Music Show Honoring Mothers, May 12, 2023

Our "opening baseball" outdoor event scheduled for April 17, 2023 was cancelled due to weather conditions. The event will be rescheduled.

Our holiday family dinner celebrations will resume on Mother's Day, May 14, 2023. Each resident may invite three guests. There will be two seatings: 12 noon or 1:30 pm. Mindful of COVID precautions, seating is limited. Entrée selections are Cornish Hen or Cheese Lasagna. Reservations will be accepted beginning on April 24, 2023 by calling Suzanne McEvoy, Director of Volunteers and Community Relations at 973-585-2161. For planning purposes, we would appreciate it if you would indicate the entrée selection when making the reservation.

Thank you to our colleagues in the Passaic County Parks Department for building a raised garden bed for our residents' community garden. Residents will discuss suggestions for their garden at the Resident Council Therapeutic Recreation Committee meeting on May 1, 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.

Regulatory approval to begin the fire alarm system project for the 200s and 400s sections of our Home was received and work will soon commence. 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.

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