



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, December 1, 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.

This Update includes that ten residents and one staff from resident unit 3-200 tested positive today. Seven of the ten residents received the new monovalent vaccine. All residents of unit 3-200 were tested and all staff who work on this unit are in the process of being tested. Residents and staff will be retested in accordance with regulatory requirements. Residents who tested positive are residing on unit 2-300 until transmission-based precautions are discontinued. During the contact tracing we learned that a visitor also tested positive today. Antigen tests are available at no cost for visitors who wish to be tested. Please inform the Security staff when visiting if you wish to be tested.

Thank you to our staff for their work to assist our residents to have a “Happy Thanksgiving”: to staff who worked on their holiday to provide for our residents’ needs, to our Dietary staff for the delicious meal, and to our staff who assisted at the family dinner celebration! We appreciate the efforts of so many staff who made the holiday special for our residents.

We are now accepting reservations for Christmas dinner in our main dining room on December 25, 2023, *12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. Reservations are required.* Each resident may invite three guests. Please call Suzanne McEvoy, Director of Volunteers and Community Relations at 973-585-2161 to make a reservation. Seating is limited.

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

- Internet Safety and Identity Theft presentation by the Passaic County Sheriff Department’s Community Policing Division, December 4, 2023
- DJ Dance and Birthday Party, December 6, 2023
- Hanukkah musical celebration, December 8, 2023
- “Zooming to Music” with school children, December 9, 2023
- Christmas musical celebration, December 13, 2023
- Christmas Karaoke, December 15, 2023
- Christmas party with photo booth, December 20, 2023
- Holiday caroling throughout our Home, December 22, 2023 beginning at *10:00 am*
- Kwanza musical celebration with jazz band, December 27, 2023
- New Years Eve celebration, December 31, 2023, *7:00 pm to 9:00 pm* (reservations are not required)

We will celebrate “Ugly Sweater Day” on December 15, 2023.

Fr. Jim (Moss) will be on Leave from *December 3, 2023* through December 21, 2023. *Please note that the mass on December 3, 2023 is cancelled. This is a change in the schedule.* Fr. Jim anticipates returning on Christmas Eve and will celebrate the following masses:

- Christmas Eve, December 24, 2023, 2:00 pm
- Christmas Day, December 25, 2023, 2:30 pm
- New Years Eve, December 31, 2023, 2:00 pm

The regular schedule of masses on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 2:00 pm should resume on January 2, 2023.

Masks are required when attending activities and religious services in the main dining room.

The Passaic County Board of Commissioners and the Passaic County Department of Human Services are hosting a winter clothing drive. Donations of gloves, hats, scarves, socks, blankets and sleeping bags are greatly appreciated. There is a collection box in our entrance lobby. Thank you for your anticipated generosity!

For the safety of all, please be advised that cut trees may not be brought into our Home. Artificial decorations with lights or electric ornaments must be UL listed. Extension cords are not permitted. Please refer any questions to Frank Irizarry, Safety Coordinator at 973-585-2117.

Please be reminded that alcohol may not be consumed within our Home or on our premises by visitors. Residents who have a specific order from their attending physician may consume limited quantities of alcohol. Please direct any questions to a Nursing Supervisor.

As recommended by the NJ Department of Health, Patrick Kuiken, RN, LTC-CIP, Infection Preventionist is continuing to administer the updated COVID-19 monovalent vaccine to residents who consent or who have consent authorized by the resident's representative to receive the vaccine. Mr. Kuiken can be reached at 973-585-2181 for additional information or to answer any questions.

Job opportunities are available for an Environmental Services Supervisor, Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Food Service Supervisor, Food Service Workers, Cook, Recreation Therapist, Registered Dietitian, Security Guard and Senior Accountant. 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, Geoffrey Mugalu, Ph.D., 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.*

Preakness Strong Heroes Will Always Continue to Work Here!

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA
Executive Director