



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, December 7, 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.

On December 6, 2023, three residents who live on resident units 1-200, 2-200 and 3-200 tested positive and are residing on unit 2-400 "C" section until transmission-based precautions are discontinued. *The phone number for unit 2-400 is 973-317-7031.* Residents who tested positive on or before December 4, 2023 are residing on unit 2-300 until transmission-based precautions are discontinued. *The phone number for unit 2-300 is 973-585-1402.* One staff from Social Services tested positive on December 5, 2023, three staff from Environmental Services tested positive on December 6, 2023 and one staff from Dietary tested positive on December 7, 2023. We currently have twenty-six residents and thirteen staff who are on transmission-based precautions for COVID-19. Since the beginning of the Outbreak on October 17, 2023, twenty-nine residents and fifteen staff have tested positive. Residents and staff who had exposure to residents or staff who tested positive or who have symptoms are in the process of being tested and will be retested in accordance with regulatory requirements. 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.

Please be advised that until further notice, staff must wear masks at all times. Visitors and residents are strongly encouraged to wear masks.

We will assess and advise whether the following events/services scheduled for 2:00 pm in our main dining room will be postponed:

- Hanukkah musical celebration, December 12, 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
- Christmas Eve Mass, December 24, 2023, 2:00 pm
- Christmas Day Mass, December 25, 2023, 2:30 pm
- Kwanza musical celebration with jazz band, December 27, 2023
- New Years Eve Mass, December 31, 2023, 2:00 pm
- New Years Eve celebration, December 31, 2023, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm (reservations are not required)

On December 13, 2023 at 4:30 pm, the Passaic County Sheriff's Christmas Light Spectacular Truck Parade will drive around our Home for viewing from inside or outside.

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

Thank you to our staff who have beautifully decorated our residents' Home, to our residents' families who have decorated resident rooms and to our friends for the beautiful decorations!!

We are 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.

The Passaic County Commissioners are hosting the annual Angel Tree Toy Drive again this year. Donations will be made to children at the New Destiny Family Success Center and the Center for Family Resources. "Angels" are on the tree located at our main entrance. If you can donate a new gift, please return the gift by December 19, 2023 in the collection box in our entrance lobby. Gifts should not be wrapped or placed into bags. Thank you for your generosity!

The winter clothing drive hosted by the Passaic County Commissioners and the Passaic County Department of Human Services will continue until January 10, 2024. 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 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 direct 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, 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