



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, December 30, 2023

With wishes for a Happy, Healthy New Year!

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.

Thank you to all who brought holiday cheer to our residents:

- ***All staff who worked on holidays and delayed celebrations with their families to provide care to our residents!***
- Mrs. Elizabeth Kattak, President of the Preakness Hospital Auxiliary for the Christmas and Hanukkah cards for each resident and to the Preakness Hospital Auxiliary who gave each resident a gift.
- Santa (Linu John) who led our team of young elves (Cara, Robyn, Alyssa and Anthony) and staff elves to bring gifts to our residents as we sang carols with Scott Giaquinta. Special thanks to Alina Zalenski, Shannon Mulhern and Christine Pearce who wrapped hundreds of presents.
- Student volunteer Jacob who gave each resident a card that was created by Banyan School students.
- Our Dietary staff for the delicious meal prepared by Chef Rodney that was served to residents on their units and to residents/guests in the main dining room by Nursing, Therapeutic Recreation and Environmental Services staff with assistance from our holiday volunteers, Scott and Pam.
- Paulette DeMauro for the beautiful wreaths.
- Michael Ramaglia for the Christmas tree for our entrance patio.
- All who "decked our halls" during the month of December.
- Staff and visitors who donated toys for the Angel Tree Toy Drive.

Since the last Update letter, one resident from resident unit 1-200 and one resident from resident unit Pathway tested positive on December 30, 2023. On December 28, 2023, three staff tested positive (Nursing management, one C NA who works on unit 1-200 and one support staff). Residents and staff who had exposure to residents or staff who test positive or who have symptoms are tested in accordance with requirements. There are six residents who tested positive who are residing on unit 2-300 until transmission-based precautions are discontinued. The phone number for unit 2-300 is 973-585-1402. Seven staff are on transmission-based precautions. 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.

Until further notice, staff must wear masks at all times. Visitors and residents are strongly encouraged to wear masks.

The following events/services are scheduled for 2:00 pm in our main dining room:

- 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). Dessert and non-alcoholic beverages will be served.
- Friday at the Movies: "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3", January 5, 2024
- Zooming with Music Concert, January 6, 2024
- Music Bingo, January 12, 2024
- Martin Luther King Presentation, January 15, 2024
- Latin Dance Party, January 17, 2024
- Casino Day, January 19, 2024

Masks must be worn when attending activities and religious services in the main dining room.

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!

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. The NJ Department of Health recommends watching the following videos regarding vaccination:

<https://youtu.be/cUx1rWIU-UE> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LMfls6uMwzw>

Job opportunities are available for a Hair Stylist/Beautician, Environmental Services Supervisor, Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Food Service Supervisor, Food Service Workers, Cook, Recreation Therapist 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, 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