



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, January 15, 2024

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 January 14, 2024 one resident from unit 3-200 tested positive. Staff who had close contact with our resident are in the process of being tested. Residents on unit 1-400 were retested this morning and the results were negative. The residents on 1-400 will be retested on January 17, 2024. Our six residents who tested positive are residing on unit 2-300 until transmission-based precautions are discontinued. *The phone number for unit 2-300 is 973-585-1402.* Also, on January 14, 2024, one nurse who works on resident unit 1-400 and one C NA who worked on resident unit 1-200 and the COVID transmission-based precautions unit tested positive. Four staff are out of work 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.

Thank you to Mark Zalenski for the informative and moving presentation this afternoon to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. on his birthday.

Congratulations to Shannon Mulhern and Christine Pearce, Recreation Therapists for our Plaza West, long-term mental health unit, who were selected to receive an "Excellence in Caring Award" from Leading Age NJ/DE, an association of non-profit senior care providers. We submitted a nomination for their work to create a "Hall of Fame" during Mental Health month for the residents of Plaza West. They took the time to research the lives of our residents on Plaza West and present their life-time stories and challenges.

The January 2024 issue of the Beacon published by the NJ Office of the Long-term Care Ombudsman is available on-line at nj.gov/ooie. This issue includes information on the efforts in progress to lobby for and enact legislation to increase the current Personal Needs Allowance for nursing home residents on Medicaid.

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

- Latin Dance Party, January 17, 2024
- Casino Day, January 19, 2024
- Birthday Party, January 24, 2024
- Bingo with Students, January 27, 2024
- Internet Safety Presentation, January 29, 2024
- Bible Study, January 31, 2024

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

The Wayne Health Department will provide a COVID-19 vaccination clinic in our Home for staff and visitors on January 17, 2024. Pfizer and Moderna vaccines will be available. Registration is required. Please register with Patrick Kuiken, RN, LTC-CIP, Infection Preventionist (973-585-2181) or Peggy Ramos, Keyboard Clerk (973-585-2172) and specify which vaccine you would like to receive.

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, 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