



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, January 17, 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.

Since the last Update, five residents from resident unit 1-400 tested positive: one resident tested positive in the evening on January 15, 2024 and four residents tested positive on January 17, 2024 during the third cycle of testing. Residents on 1-400 will be retested on January 19, 2024. On January 17, 2024, one resident on unit 3-200 tested positive. Our twelve 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.*

On January 16, 2024, one C NA who worked on unit 1-400 tested positive. On January 17, 2024, one C NA who worked on unit 3-200 tested positive. Residents on unit 3-200 who had close contact with our staff who tested positive were tested today and will be retested on January 19, 2024. Six 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 the Wayne Health Department for the COVID-19 vaccination clinic in our Home for staff on January 17, 2024. 31 staff received the updated monovalent vaccines.

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

- 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.

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