



# Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, April 19, 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.

Thank you to Rabbi Randy Mark, Shomrei Torah/Wayne Conservative Congregation who celebrated a Passover Seder with our residents.

The following information regarding "Enhanced Barrier Precautions" is provided by Patrick Kuiken, RN, LTC-CIP, Infection Preventionist:

You may have noticed new signs on some doors for "Enhanced Barrier Precautions" and staff wearing gowns and gloves more often. We're doing this based on new recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to protect our residents and staff from germs that can cause serious infections and are hard to treat. You may have heard of these germs called multidrug-resistant organisms or MDROs in the news.

Studies have shown that more than 50% of nursing home residents have these germs on or in their body, especially in places where the skin is broken, such as wounds or insertion sites of medical devices such as feeding tubes. Most of the time people never know they are carrying these germs but under certain conditions they can enter the body and cause serious infections.

Fortunately, there are many things we can do to keep these germs from spreading. Two important practices are:

1. Cleaning our hands. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer can kill these germs and keep us from spreading them with our hands. This is why we remind staff, residents, visitors and volunteers to frequently clean their hands.
2. Using gowns and gloves. Since we can't wash our clothes between caring for residents, gowns and gloves help keep these germs from getting on our clothes and spreading to others when we are having close contact with residents. This is why you might see us wearing a gown and gloves when we are performing transfers or other activities involving a lot of contact with a resident. Just because we are wearing a gown and gloves doesn't mean that a resident is carrying one of these germs. We also wear them to protect residents who might be more vulnerable to developing a serious infection if exposed to these germs. We will also wear them during care such as the changing of a dressing on a wound.

Patrick Kuiken, RN, LTC-CIP, Infection Preventionist is available to answer any questions about actions we are taking to protect our residents and staff and appreciate your support! Feel free to contact Mr. Kuiken at 973-585-2181.

Elevator #6 (units 1-200, 2-200, 3-200) is back in service. Elevator #4 in the rotunda is out of service for refurbishment. Thank you for your continued patience!

On April 22, 2024, we will begin a project to refurbish the shower room on resident unit 1-300 on the "B" side (directly across from the activity room). Residents will use the shower room on the opposite side of the unit. Michael Jordan, Facilities Director is available to answer any questions or address any concerns. Feel free to contact Mr. Jordan at 973-317-7030.

*Please note: There will not be Catholic Mass on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, Sunday, May 5, 2024 and Tuesday, May 7, 2024.*

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

- "Elton John" Concert, April 20, 2024
- Earth Day Horticulture Program, April 22, 2024
- Bible Study with Eddy, April 24, 2024
- Baseball Opening Day/DJ Dance Party, April 29, 2024, *Rotunda Patio, Weather-permitting*
- Cinco De Mayo Musical Party, May 3, 2024
- Resident and Staff Fashion Show, May 8, 2024
- Mother's Day Tea, May 10, 2024
- DJ Dance and Birthday Party, May 13, 2024
- Honoring Mothers --- Music by the Pettet Duo, May 15, 2024
- Resident and Staff Talent Show, May 17, 2024
- Zooming to Music Concert with Students, May 18, 2024
- **Memorial Day Parade, May 22, 2024, 11:00 am**
- Friday at the Movies, "The Boys in the Boat", May 24, 2024
- Bible Study with Eddy, May 29, 2024

The Passaic County Board of County Commissioners and the Passaic County Dept of Health Services are sponsoring a "Spring Hygiene Collection" until April 30, 2024. Donations of hygiene and personal grooming products are appreciated and will be given to community-based agencies in Passaic County: Eva's village, OASIS, CUMAC. There is a collection box in our entrance lobby and the employee entrance.

We are accepting applications for adult volunteers. If interested, please speak with Suzanne McEvoy, Director of Volunteers, 973-585-2161.

Job opportunities are available for 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