



# Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, September 30, 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:*

- Staff who assisted with the dishwasher replacement project and to our residents for their understanding and patience during the project.

*Congratulations to:*

- Marcia Valesse, RN, BSN, MSN on her achievement of a Masters in Science in Nursing with a specialization in Nursing Education!

One staff from Therapeutic Recreation tested positive for COVID-19 on September 24, 2024. The residents who had contact with our staff member were tested and the residents/designated representatives were informed of the exposure. All test results were negative.

Patrick Kuiken, RN, BSN, LTC-CIP, Infection Preventionist is in the process of administering the 2024-2025 Moderna Spikevax COVID-19 vaccine and/or the Influenza vaccine to residents if the resident and/or their designated representatives have provided consent. Mr. Kuiken may be reached at 973-585-2181 to answer any questions.

In accordance with New Jersey P.L. 2019 Chapter 330, C:26:2H-18.79, all staff who do not have a medical or religious exemption must be vaccinated for influenza each year. References in the law to staff include but are not limited to employed and contract staff, volunteers, and physicians. Flyers are posted throughout our Home indicating the dates/times when the influenza vaccines are available. Patrick Kuiken, RN, BSN, LTC-CIP, Infection Preventionist is available to answer any questions.

After several years of service to our residents, Dr. Staunton, Podiatrist has retired. Two Podiatrists will soon begin to provide Podiatry services. Residents and/or their designated representatives who wish to receive podiatry services within Preakness may select one of the Podiatrists. Peggy Ramos, Keyboard Clerk will send via email information for the selection of a Podiatrist. Residents may also receive services in the community from Podiatrists.

The 2025 Medicare Health and Drug Plan Annual Open Enrollment period begins on October 15, 2024 and ends on December 7, 2024. Passaic County's Department of Senior Services, Disability and Veterans Affairs is offering a Medicare Educational Seminar on November 1, 2024 from 10:00 am to 12 noon at the Passaic County Senior Services offices, 930 Riverview Drive, Suite 200, Totowa. To reserve seating, please call 973-569-4060.

The Passaic County Department of Health Services is collecting eyeglasses throughout the month of October. A collection bin is located in our entrance lobby. Your generosity is appreciated!

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

- Oktoberfest Party, October 4, 2024
- Jewish Holiday Music, October 5, 2024
- Latin Dance Party Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, October 9, 2024
- Friday at the Movies, "Hocus Pocus", October 11, 2024
- Italian Music Party Celebrating Italian Heritage, October 16, 2024
- Birthday Party, October 18, 2024
- Bible Study with Eddy, October 23, 2024
- Diwali Celebration, October 28, 2024
- Wayne Library Visit, October 30, 2024
- Halloween Party, October 31, 2024 *Costumes are encouraged!*

Special lunches will be served on October 4, 2024 for Oktoberfest, on October 9, 2024 for Hispanic Heritage Month and on October 16, 2024 for Italian Heritage Month.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Services will be celebrated with Rabbi Randy Mark on October 7, 2024 at 2:00 pm.

Catholic mass is celebrated on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2:00 pm in our main dining room. Mass will not be celebrated on October 31, 2024.

Protestant Services are celebrated every other Sunday at 3:30 pm in our main dining room. The October dates are October 13, 2024 and October 27, 2024

The Hair Salon is open on Saturdays from 10 am to 5 pm (last appointment is 4 pm) in October. Please call the Hair Salon at 973-585-2149 to schedule an appointment or contact a Social Worker at 973-585-2172.

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; Patrick Kuiken, RN, BSN, LTC-CIP, Infection Preventionist, 973-585-2181 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