



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Abilene State Supported Living Center

OUR MISSION:
To empower people to make choices
that result in a life of dignity and
increased independence.

AbSSLC News

Abilene SSLC

Week of April 6th, 2020

AbSSLC Nursing Hotline for COVID19 Issues

If **you**, or **anyone in your household**, is tested for COVID19, it is **critical** that you contact the AbSSLC Nursing Hotline. You can reach this line by dialing INFO (x4636) from any campus phone or by calling 692-4053 x4636 from off-campus. Please note you will be asked to leave your full name and phone number on the recording – Nursing checks this line multiple times a day and will return your call. Please be patient – they are receiving numerous calls each day and want to take the time to ensure all of your questions are answered fully.

HHSC Launches Statewide COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line

Texas Health and Human Services has launched a 24/7 statewide mental health support line to help Texans experiencing anxiety, stress or emotional challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This new resource offers COVID-19-related mental health support for all Texans. People can call the Statewide COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week toll-free at **833-986-1919**.



**April is Occupational
Therapy Month!**

Avoid the Scams!

Almost immediately after the Economic Impact Checks (Stimulus Checks) were announced the scam emails & phone calls started. These calls/emails are nothing but an attempt to separate you from your money.

A few hints on staying safe courtesy of Forbes Magazine:

1. Fake checks

"If you receive a 'stimulus check' in the mail now, it's a fraud — it will take the Treasury a few weeks to mail those out," Phillips Erb wrote. As of now, the IRS seems to be forgoing paper checks all together in favor of direct deposit.

"If you receive a 'stimulus check' for an odd amount (especially one with cents), or a check that requires that you verify the check online or by calling a number, it's a fraud," she said.

2. Social media messages asking for personal information

The Better Business Bureau says fraudsters are sending out messages via social media, and sometimes via text, that contain links asking a person to enter "personal information and/or banking details." These messages claim the information is "necessary" to receive your stimulus check. Just remember: The US government — and especially the IRS — will never get in touch with you on Facebook, Instagram, or any other social media platform.

3. A fake agency asking for your Social Security number

Another variation of the social media messages scam brings users to a fake website called the "US Emergency Grants Federation" and asks for your Social Security number to verify your eligibility, according to the Better Business Bureau. "Be sure to do your research and see if a government agency or organization actually exists," the Better Business Bureau site reads. "Find contact info on your own and call them to be sure the person you've heard from is legitimate."

4. Claims that a 'processing fee' will get your money to you sooner

Yet another scam claims that you can get additional money or get your money immediately if you share personal details and "pay a small 'processing fee.'" In reality, there's no way to speed up the IRS payment process. "If you have to pay money to claim a 'free' government grant, it is not really free," the Better Business Bureau warns. "A real government agency will not ask you to pay an advanced processing fee. The only official list of all U.S. federal grant-making agencies is Grants.gov."

5. Any correspondence claiming to be the Treasury Department

The IRS is a bureau of the Treasury Department, and it isn't exactly modern. The agency most often gets in touch with taxpayers via snail mail. In the case of the stimulus checks, the IRS is relying on direct deposit information provided on recent tax returns to send out payments.

Remember – Handwashing & Sanitizing High-Touch Surfaces helps keep everyone safe!