



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 December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### AbSSLC COVID19 Status (as of COB 12.25.2020)

Individuals currently in Isolation	0
Total Individuals Tested Positive	91
Total Individuals Recovered	91
Total Staff Tested Positive	462
Total Staff Recovered	395

Please note that this information is subject to change daily.  
The numbers shown are current as the date shown at the top  
of the chart.

## Calling in Sick

- If you are calling in for any kind of illness, you **MUST** call the Nursing Hotline **FIRST**. If you or anyone in your household is tested for COVID-19 you must call the Nursing Hotline immediately. You can reach this line by dialing **INFO (x4636)** from any campus phone or by calling **692-4053 x4636** from off-campus.
- Please be watching for a return call after you leave your message.

## Making a Difference at Abilene SSLC

Mission Thanksgiving is an annual tradition in Abilene. Community members bring food, clothing, blankets and other donations to people who are homeless or facing financial challenges. Each year for the past two decades, groups have gathered donations to be distributed by Love & Care Ministries.

The Aktion Club at Abilene State Supported Living Center is proud to be part of that effort. As a Kiwanis service leadership program for adults with disabilities, Aktion Club members are residents who want to make a difference in their community.

Led by Jeff Branch, Abilene Director of Residential Services, they decorate large barrels and place them around campus to collect donations from SSLC employees. Although this is usually a one-day drive, the high need in the community due to the pandemic inspired officials to extend it to five days. This year, they brought in five barrels full of donations for Mission Thanksgiving.

Branch said the Aktion Club is proud to contribute. "They want to make a difference," he said. "Some of them don't speak with words, but it doesn't mean they don't have anything to say. If you ask them, they're pretty passionate about doing it."

### COVID19 Testing

Week of 12/28/2020

Monday – 12/28  
530am-1130am  
1pm-3pm

Wednesday – 12/30  
530am-1130am  
1pm-3pm

### 1st Payday in January

The 1st paycheck issued in 2021 will be on Monday, January 4th.

New Year's Day, January 1st, is a regular state holiday, so the issue date of pay is the next business day, Monday, January 4th.

Employees who receive their December earnings by check will have access to their warrant and pay on January 4<sup>th</sup>. Employees who receive their December earnings via direct deposit may have access to their pay earlier, depending on the policies of your bank or financial institution.

## Campus Closures

The (World Famous) 5<sup>th</sup> Street Diner along with the Lone Star CTH, Glenda's Second Edition, Vocational Services, Recreation & the Activity Centers will remain closed for the remainder of the year.

We **hope** to reopen on 1/4/2021 but it will depend on several different factors related to COVID19.

# Shout Outs!

**Lacy Hanson** is a fantastic person and BHS. She goes above and beyond to connect with the people she serves. She is always kind and patient.

SHOUT OUT: In every COVID conversation you get in with family or friends in the community, brag about Abilene SSLC and the bang-up job that our **ADMINISTRATION TEAM** and **DEDICATED EMPLOYEES** do, day in, day out, to protect the individuals who live here and depend on us.

Hello, my name is Chastity Long. I am the DSP3 on the home that **Lori, Chris, Sarah, Zana** and **Ashlee** work on while they were at San Angelo State Supported Living Center. I wanted to say THANK YOU, so much for allowing these amazing people to help us out, it was greatly needed and appreciated! I got to work with Lori, Sarah, Chris, Zana and Ashlee everyday they were here. They were exceptional! They never complained about any tasks they were given. They were always excited to come to work and greeted all of our guys and staff with that same excitement. They were a breath of fresh air. They were also dependable and on time. It was so wonderful meeting and working with all of them. We miss them all so much. They absolutely made a positive impact on the gentlemen that live on this home, and the all the staff including myself. I know they missed their families and the residents they care for, but the sacrifice they made to help others was no less than incredible. Again, please let them all know, we all miss them and we thank them. They are an amazing, kind hearted, group of people.

Shout out to **Susan Kilpatrick** for setting up the classrooms and helping with school issues.

Shout out to **Oraann Austin** for guiding the staff working in the classrooms and taking care of issues.

Shout out to **O'Keefe Cairo, Laura Fuentes, Teresa Barbian, Dotty Pacheco, Gina Davila,** and **Maria Schmidt**. They are keeping the students on schedule, helping with class work, filling in gaps with crafts and projects, and keeping things going each day for our school aged kids. Remote learning would not be possible without them!

Shout out to **Melissa Claypool** in Medical Records. She always goes the extra mile to ensure that the clients have their off-campus doctor appointments scheduled (even having to reschedule them numerous times due to Covid-19, etc.), and she does this with a smile and courteousness to all who call her for appointments to be made.

Ronda and I would like to do a HUGE shout out for **Jimmy, Jesse, Barbara, Asha,** and **Jose**. They have really stepped up without hesitation and helped Ronda while the rest of us are out! They have helped out, answered phones and helped with clearing staff. They have done an excellent job as team members of Risk Mgt. We are so grateful we have such a wonderful team and a great leader.

**Tina Hayworth**, 6-2 shift at 6521 is a delight to talk with concerning the individuals she works with. She really knows what they like and dislike and is able to communicate very well with them. Her caring attitude is uplifting!

Big THANK YOU to **Alexis Hernandez** from 6720 for transporting an individual to Audiology on the golf cart and for even being ON TIME. She went the extra mile and was so good reassuring and helping the individual use his walker to get in and out of the Sound Room. BRAVO Alexis!!!

## Shout Out!

Have you seen someone do the above & beyond or just want to recognize great work?

It's easy to Shout Out!

- "Reply" to any of the update texts you receive through the AskAdmin Text Group
- Email Jeff Goza with their name and your comments.
- Text their name and your comments to 325.370.4525

Let's **Shout Out** and recognize others!