



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 October 11th, 2021

COVID19 Testing

Week of 10.11.2021

We are testing **2x** per week!

Round 1

Tuesday, October 12th
0530-1130 & 1300-1500

or

Wednesday, October 13th
0700-1130 & 1300-1500

Round 2

Thursday, October 14th
0530-1130 & 1300-1500

or

Friday, October 15th
0700-1130 & 1300-1500

You must test both rounds each week

AbSSLC COVID19 Status

As of Friday, 10/08/21

Number of Individuals Positive	0
Number of Individuals currently in Isolation	0
Number of Staff Positive	9

Flu Shot
Clinic

Get the
FLU SHOT
not the flu!

Thursday, 10/14
0530-1200 & 1300-1500

Food Truck Friday!
Taquero Mucho Jesus
11:30am-1:30pm

Visit our website @
AbSSLC.org

Have questions? We have answers!

Please text your questions to **325.370.4525** so we can research them and publish the answers in our weekly (and widely loved & read) newsletter!

Make your intention
INFECTION PREVENTION

INTERNATIONAL INFECTION PREVENTION WEEK | OCTOBER 17-23, 2021

I am HHS

The "I Am HHS" series provides an opportunity to learn about the HHS community across the state through personal profiles of employees working hard for their fellow teammates and the people of Texas.



Name: Amy Gleaton

Job title: Director of Habilitation Therapies

What do you do?

I supervise a department of about 50 people including occupational, speech and physical therapists, as well as dietitians, audiologists, physical nutritional management plan coordinators and staff in the wheelchair shop. I make sure that everyone has the tools, training and support they need to be able to do their jobs to serve the people who live at Abilene State Supported Living Center.

How did you get started in this field?

I worked in group homes on the night shift and in the daytime workshops when I was in college. Then I came to AbSSLC as an occupational therapist student from Texas Tech, and I fell in love with the residents, the employees, the administration and the campus, so I came back to work as soon as I graduated.

What's most important to you about your job?

Knowing that every day I have a chance to make a positive impact in the lives of those who live here, either directly or indirectly. I truly believe the SSLCs have staff with the highest level of specialized knowledge in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. I have a chance to learn and grow every day at my job — as a leader, an employee, a therapist, a supervisor and as a public servant.

Continue reading @ <https://hhsconnection.hhs.texas.gov/news-announcements/announcements/i-am-hhs-amy-gleaton>

See
Say
Do
Something



AbSSLC Campus Fair 2021!

It takes an army to pull off a campus wide event (especially in less than a month) such as The Campus Fun Fair, and this would NOT have been possible without the following people/groups/departments/stuff...

Thank you to the following people who eagerly agreed to have water dumped on their head over and over and over.... YOU put a smile on the face of everyone who hit the target (or missed)!

Jeff Goza (ADoA)	Cody Carroll (Transportation)
Courtney Pearce (QIDP) x 2	David Daniel (ADoP)
Jeff Branch (DRS)	Canesha Roberts (Voc Services)
Ricky Watkins (Maintenance)	Mike Horton (Voc Services)
Mel Mendoza (FCT&D)	Colin "Legs" Dawsey (FCT&D)
Phyllis Grubb (Vocational Services)	Jarrold Zamora (FCT&D)
Ryan Lineweaver (FCT&D)	Alexis Escobar (Maintenance)
Suzanne Sargeant (Hab Services)	Justin Rivera (Recreation)

A special Thank You to the **Maintenance Crew** who was available and ready with each and every call (x100) to help with water temps, leaky faucets, fixing the dump buckets, picking up helium, etc! Ya'll are THE best and we appreciate you so much!

Shout out to the ever so talented **Orthotics Crew** who made the button operated catapult and Dump Bucket stands! These are wonderful! Thank you for the work you put in to making these so we could enjoy them at The Campus Fun Fair. Also, thank you for coming to repair each time we called. Y'all helped make the fair SO much fun ... and cooler!

Thank you to the **ATCs, Activity Centers, Community Relations, Social Workers, QIDPs, and Vocational Services** for working the booths! You're SOOOOO awesome (regardless what Goza says about you)!

Thank you to **Hab Services/Dietary** and **Suzanne** and the **Hab Crew** for preparing diet sheets & serving popcorn, cotton candy, snow cones, and water and for all you did to help keep everyone safe!

Thank you to the **Volunteer Services Council (VSC)** for providing funds for the prizes, snow cones, popcorn, photo paper/backdrop, cotton candy, May Farm, T-shirts, and Helium for balloons. Also, to the generous donors who give to the VSC! This event would not have happen without you and your generosity.

Thank you to the **May Farm** for adjusting and readjusting your schedule so the animals could visit for 2 days!

Thank You to the **Taylor County Expo Center** for letting us borrow decorations for the fair and for donating the award ribbons for the art contest.

Thank you to **TMI Advertising Agency** for the donation of prizes for games.

Thank You to **Barbara Marrow** and the **FCT/D judges** who had THE hardest time awarding ribbons for the wonderful and amazing art pieces submitted.

Thank You to all the **T-Shirt Makers** for using your heat presses on overdrive to make 260+ T-shirts. And Thank you to **Kenny Dry** and **Doreen** for finding T-Shirts for a reasonable price for us to purchase and delivering them to us.

Thank you to **Activity Centers** for the Welcome Banner. It's too cute!! Great job, as always!

Thank you to **Vecente Ramos** (Housekeeping) for coming out to OWT to keep us tidy!

A Special Shout Out! to the folks who provided our amazing live music for the fair:

Orlando Estrada
Ethan Baird & Mason Walker
M&M (Dr. Murray & Misty Mendez)
Jamison Priest

Thank you to "**the individual from 6380**" for the awesome signs you made for each booth.

A VERY special Thank You and Shout Out to the hardworking and always amazing **Recreation & Transportation Crew**. Y'all put in countless hours of time, energy, steps, planning, and sweat to make this event happen. YOU made sure it was organized & safe for all, set up/took down, set up/take down shade tents, made cotton candy, popped corn, decorating the campsite, iced down water, got ice for snow cones, organized prizes (all done in the "middle of the night"), made the schedule, transported people to/from the fair, provided assistance while at the fair, made sure everyone who wanted to attend was able to, made bags for those not able to attend, took care of the farm animals, remained enthusiastic each time you brought a different group, AND made sure every single person had THE best time. THANK YOU THANK YOU!!!!

If I missed anyone ... please know your hand/heart/part in this did NOT go unnoticed. It's because of YOU that this event took place, everyone had a great time, smiled, and enjoyed this opportunity

THANK YOU (And ... please know I didn't intentionally forget you ... I'm old, tired (from being at work *almost* on time 😊 for 2 days in a row), and still drowning from the buckets of water that were dumped on my head. Please forgive me!)

~ Shae Butts

Shout Outs!

I would like to send a shout out to **Christy Reeves, PNMPC** for her dedication for helping at 6480 Peach with individuals doing hand care, bathing, oral care and helping the home. She is dedicated & helpful and she demonstrate good leadership. Every time I visit that home she is working hard.

HUGE Shout Out to the guys in the **Grounds Department!** They were with a previous AbSSLC resident for her memorial at the AbSSLC cemetery on 10/05/2021. I was running a little late because I forgot the address for the cemetery 😊. They said Mr. Spencer gave a really pretty ceremony. I didn't know that the staff in grounds are at all of the ceremonies of the people we serve or served, to complete the final steps of the burial process. It was nice to know that when the rest of us can't make it that they are there to ensure the person isn't alone.

I'd like to do a shout out to the Supervisors **Kristen Ellison, Amanda Liuzza, Melissa Castillo** and the Director of Behavior Services **Kathy Mayor**. They are very supportive, and always there for their staff. When problems arise, they all assist in helping out where they can. No matter what happens these Ladies are there for anyone and everyone.

I would like to give a shout out to all the staff at 6760 Circle Drive. **Shari, Nikki, Jessica, Ariyanna, Samantha M, Georgia, Kristina, Angel** and **Samantha A**. Thank you for all the great work you do every day for the ladies that live here. Staff shortages never affect the amazing care you give every day. Everyone's been working extra shifts and pulling together displaying outstanding teamwork. Thank you to all of you! 😊

Happy Physician's Assistant Week to our favorite PA!

Jenni Jamison is THE best!



Q&As

Q. Fire drills are really disruptive – especially those that occur at night and when it's cold outside! Why do we have to do these so often?

A. First off, we agree! No one wants to get up in the middle of the night from a sound sleep – and go outside. We are required by regulatory to perform a certain number of drills each quarter and at all hours and in all weather conditions. Basically, these are to provide a true test so staff know how to respond in a real emergency. We try – as much as we can while still meeting the requirements – to make these as easy as possible on the Individuals and staff.

Q. Where do I get the COVID19 screening form so I don't have to complete it at the gate?

A. The form is available on the Share Directory. If you can't access it, your supervisor should be able to get it for you. Copies are also available at the Switchboard.

Q. How much longer will we be COVID19 testing 2x per week?

A. The easy answer is – no one knows ... Our testing frequency is mandated by CMS and based on the frequency of positive cases in Taylor County. We get a report each Monday that tells us the current rate. Even when/if it falls, we have to continue for 2 more weeks after that report. If it goes back up, the process starts over.

Q. What is Maintenance doing at the South 24th Exit Gate?

A. A new (motorized) rolling gate is being installed at the exit to make it easier – and faster – to open & close. Plan in the near future to use a temporary exit while they are doing work that needs to have the road closed to all traffic.

Information on the temporary exit will be published in the newsletter, via email and via text when the change is needed.

Q. I have a question I would like to ask.

A. Great! Text it to 325.370.4525

Shout Out!

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

It's easy to do a 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!