



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 February 28th, 2022

COVID19 Testing

We will now be testing **1 day** for each round as noted below. All staff will test on the same day.

Round 1

Tuesday, March 1st
0530-1130 & 1300-1500

Round 2

Thursday, March 3rd
0530-1130 & 1300-1500

You must test both rounds each week

AbSSLC COVID19 Status

As of Friday, 02.25.2022

Number of Individuals Positive	0
Number of Individuals currently in Isolation	0
Number of Staff Positive	3

Please remember to turn
off your monitor
(**not computer**) when
leaving for the day.



More Questions on the Upcoming Raise

Q. I looked in CAPPs but didn't see any difference in my take-home pay – why not?. The note said it started in March.

A. The raise is effective March 1st – you will see your new amount on either March 15th or April 1st, depending on when you get paid.

Q. How much difference will I see in my check?

A. The raise is 10%/7%/5% based on your current paygrade. It's very hard to say exactly what you will see because everyone has different amounts taken out for various things, different taxes, etc.

Q. This on-going, not a one-time payment, correct?

A. Yes! The raise (actually an equity adjustment if you want to use the true terminology for what we are getting) continues each month. It's been years since we have seen this occur!

Q. Will DSPs/RNs/LVNs still receive a merit in August?

A. No. The raise is taking the place of the previously announced merits for August 2022 and February 2023.

Employee Donated Sick Leave

HHSC allows employees to donate sick time to other staff who are in need and have exhausted all of their own sick time. The donated time goes to the designated employee and cannot be returned to the person who donated it, even if it's not all used.

Policy is very clear that an employee cannot ask another employee to donate this time – it must be offered freely by someone that is willing to give it. An employee is also not allowed to have someone ask for them ("Sue, can you ask Bill if he will donate me some of his time") nor advertise they are needing time on Social Media or any other means.

Violation of this policy (asking for time in some manner) is considered very serious and will likely lead to significant consequences, up to and including termination.

Please contact your supervisor if you have any questions regarding this.

Shout Outs!

My Son is a resident and on Thursday, February 17th, he had oral surgery in the infirmary and my Wife, and I would like to give a shout out to the **Infirmiry staff, Doctors, Nurses** as well as **Ebony** who was his One-to- One staff for the day of surgery. The staff was so caring and loving to him and treated my Wife and I so well throughout the day. We are so happy how your whole team operates. May God bless and keep you all!

Leslie Riggins gets a HUGE shout out for taking the time to make needed badges that the individuals need so they can start to work - Kudos to Leslie! She is greatly appreciated for her ongoing dedication to AbSSLC and the individuals that live here!

I have a shout out for **Keith Lewis**, one of the managers In Central Kitchen. On the Wednesday ice/day he had a cook and 2 employees Call in instead of delagating and putting more work on someone else who had plenty, he rolled up his sleeves and was washing dishes and helping cook. That is what i call a TEAM member and we made it work.

Shout Out to the **employees at the gate** with the freezing temperatures taking out COVID sheets... Really all sorts of weather. MUCH APPRECIATED

PEANUTS! PEANUTS! GET YOUR PEANUTS!

Recreation is selling the famous Texas Roadhouse peanuts as a fundraiser for the upcoming Special Olympics Nationals to be held in Florida. For \$5 you get a great bag of peanuts + a card for a free appetizer.



To get yours, please see Cindy, Ashley or any of the other nice folks in Recreation.

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

Text to 325.370.4525

RN & LVN of the Month – January 2022

Mary Gonzalez, RN
No Picture Available



James Swink, LVN

The nurses nominated by the Nursing Administration Department for Nurse of the Month for January included:

Joaquina Alcantar, RN	Bikash Gurung, LVN
Bryhana Ashton, RN	Margaret Martinez, LVN
Katy McReynolds, RN	Terry Velez, LVN
Kelseye Miller, RN	Ruby Montanez, LVN
Mary Gonzalez, RN	Jessi Morehead, LVN
Niara Gums, RN	James Swink, LVN

All of these names were put in a hat and the two winning names were drawn. We want to congratulate our winners and all that were nominated. Thank you for your hard work and dedication. We appreciate everything you do!



**SPRING IS COMING SOON ...
AND SO IS OUR
TIER II LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COURSE!**

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED:

Monday, Feb 28th (today) thru Friday, March 11th @ 5pm

WHO SHOULD APPLY:

Recent supervisors, shift leads and mid-level department managers from all AbSSLC departments are encouraged to apply.

WHAT SHOULD YOU EXPECT:

Tier II Leadership Development consists of pre-course readings and assessments, team activities, classroom sessions, and presentations. Tier II is designed to enhance your leadership skills to further prepare you for increasingly responsible roles at AbSSLC or other state positions. We are honored to have over 20 instructors from several AbSSLC departments help us to help you succeed.

WHEN:

March 31st to May 5th, with a planned break on April 21st due to a state holiday. The Tier II Leadership Development course will be held full days on Thursdays.

Interested staff may apply via <https://forms.office.com/r/ZmHZPc6T7G>
Selected candidates will be notified by March 18th, 2022

Contact Steven Roberts with any questions at:
steven.roberts@hhs.texas.gov