



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 March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## COVID19 Testing @ LSCTH

Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>  
0530-1130 & 1300-1500

Make-up Day  
Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>  
1300-1500

## AbSSLC Tier II Leadership Development Course

Applications for the Spring 2023 semester now  
closing this Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>!

### WHO SHOULD APPLY:

Recent supervisors, shift leads, and mid-level department leads from all AbSSLC departments are encouraged to apply.  
**Supervision of staff is not required to apply.**

### WHAT SHOULD YOU EXPECT:

Tier II is designed to enhance your leadership skills to further prepare you for increasingly responsible roles at AbSSLC or other state positions. Instructors and mentors are here to help you succeed.

### WHEN:

**(NEW DATES) April 12<sup>th</sup> to May 10<sup>th</sup>.** Tier II Leadership will be held full days on Wednesdays at the Chapel.

## Apply here!

Selected candidates will be notified by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.  
Contact Steven Roberts with any questions at:  
[steven.roberts@hhs.texas.gov](mailto:steven.roberts@hhs.texas.gov)



## What is Self-reporting?

Per HHS policy, employees are **required** to self-report to their supervisor immediately (within five days) any of the following for any criminal offense:

- Arrest
- Indictment
- Conviction
- Plea of guilty or nolo contendere
- Deferred adjudication, Community supervision
- Probation

An employee who has self-reported an arrest or indictment is responsible for notifying the supervisor of the final outcome. **This notification must occur within five calendar days of a dismissal, acquittal or similar outcome that does not involve a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.**

The employee must also provide the supervisor with a certified copy of the outcome once it has been completed. If the employee fails to provide the supervisor with the certified copy of the outcome within the five calendar days, or is convicted of the offense, the agency will take appropriate action.

**An employee's failure to report criminal history information is a very serious offense and may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination from employment.**

The required paperwork to self-report is available from your supervisor. Please contact Jeff at x3225 if you have questions concerning this. Timing for your reporting closely monitored by State Office!



Give us your feedback! Click the [link](#) or scan the code to let us know your questions, thoughts and ideas.

# Shout Outs!

I would like to put a big shout out to the following people, **Thomas Deluna, Joe Guajardo, Joseph Hart, Kerry Crane, Keith Wakefield, Michael Roberts, Buddy Lindsey, David Payne, Doug King, David Wilson, Tab Jenkins, Ronny Ramsey, Wayne Simms, Seth Allen, Ladd Faries, Declan Casey,** and **Todd Flint** for their work on the 1<sup>st</sup> Street Cover. If I have missed anyone please forgive me and thank you as well. This was such a huge project and it took the effort of each and every one these individuals to make it happen. While they were working on this project, there teammates were taking care of the workorders that never stop coming in. Our Maintenance department is one of the greatest I have ever seen. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this outstanding group.

I really want to take a minute to truly show my appreciation for every single one of the guys in **Property Management, Carpentry, Plumbing, Electric Shop, Grounds,** and literally every department within Maintenance. 6330 3<sup>rd</sup> Street needed to move for the HVAC project and I had a lot of concerns early on. All these guys went out of their way to make sure that everything I needed or wanted was taken care of. Anything I asked for they were there making sure it got done. Things I didn't even know I needed they took care of for me. These guys will honestly do anything for you if you ask nicely. I believe if you take the time to show your appreciation it goes a long way. No request went unanswered and on move day they were all there making this move go as smoothly as possible. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart and please know that each and every one you are simply AMAZING.

I want to thank **Helen Loyer** for taking extra shifts to cover COVID Clinic. She is a super co-worker and is greatly appreciated!

I would like to give **JT Gulick** and his assistant **Garrett Galvan** a special Thank You. None of this would have been possible without them. (And don't let JT fool you ... he may be a little grumpy sometimes, but he has a huge heart).

We want to give a Shout Out to **Cindy Bowman** and **Ashley Marrow** in Recreation for letting Vocational Services use the Cinema Room yesterday to have our Pop-Up Shop.

Shout Out to **Heather Vivoda**. She showed outstanding communication skills during SUR communication class on 03/15/2023. She was assigned to Step 2 (Discover the Source), she asked about the source, paraphrased response, checked for understand and linked the source to Step 1 (Make Contact – Find the Feeling). She demonstrated an amazing example of what SUR communication should look like effortlessly. Heather showed competency in all aspects of SUR communication, however her demonstration of Step 2 flowing to Step 1 was remarkable.

I would like to give **Shakenna Kraft**, DSP III and **Amelia Willett**, DSP I a shout out for being my two rock stars at 6330 3<sup>rd</sup> Street the day we moved. These two ladies worked incredibly hard helping us get everything not only moved but unpacking and organizing things as we went. I would not have been able to do this without them or ANY of the staff at 6330. Thank you to everyone for always being so hardworking and dedicated to each other and the people we serve! And thank you to our nurses **Shannon, Swink, Anna,** and **Jill** for working so hard to get the med room and nursing offices moved. Y'all are awesome and we are lucky to have you! And to our amazing housekeeper **Victoria** for always making sure the home is clean. She has an incredibly difficult job and she always has such a positive attitude. You are very much appreciated!

A Shout Out to **Anthony Johnson**. Heshowed outstanding communication skills during SUR Communication class on 03/15/2023. He was assigned to complete section 3 of the communication process (assist with problem solving). He discussed the pros and cons of solutions that the "individual" (Jarrod) came up with, coached through role-play of the new behavior, and expressed confidence in the solution that he and Jarrod came to. He showed competency in all aspects of SUR communication, however his demonstration of step 3 stood out the most

## 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