



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 6th, 2023

COVID19 Testing @ LSCTH

Tuesday, March 7th
0530-1130 & 1300-1500

Make-up Day
Thursday, March 9th
1300-1500

QRT Visit

Staff from State Office will be here this week - Tuesday thru Thursday - to conduct our annual **Quality Review Team (QRT)** visit. This visit looks at a wide range of things across numerous departments.

Please extend our visitors a special West Texas (& AbSSLC!) welcome!

What Happened to the Cottage Renovations?

After a very (very, very) long ordeal with the General Contractor originally awarded the bid for the cottages, their contract was cancelled. The State had to take over 6720 & 6730 Circle Drive for work that was either not completed or was such poor quality that it had to be redone. This was completed and both homes are now back in operation.

The remaining cottages (6690/6700/6750/6760) are in the process of being rebid for a new contractor. We hope to resume work there sometime this summer - it will take 8-10 months to complete after construction starts again.



The updated entrance @ 1st & Maple is reopening soon. Stay tuned for details!
Thanks to Maintenance for an incredible job!

Remember that AbSSLC is a 100% Tobacco & Scent Free Campus!

Campus Safety

We continue to see on-going issues with staff having dangerous/inappropriate items in the back of their pick-up trucks when arriving on campus. This causes a delay at the gate for both the drivers and others in line. Please ensure you do not have anything in your truck that could be used as a weapon or otherwise be dangerous to the Individuals we serve.



Actual picture of truck belonging to Melissa Castillo, BHS Director



Click the [link](#) or scan the code to let us know your questions or tell us your ideas and thoughts to make AbSSLC an even better place to live & work!



Shout Outs!

We wanted to acknowledge the night supervisors, in particular **Donny Full** (Unit 4) and **Alice Rodriguez** (Unit 3). They work hard and go the extra mile to accommodate anything the campus administrators are asking. They answer their phones immediately and respond quickly. It has been at times that it wasn't even the unit that they are covering, and they are were willing to go and retrieve the info and scan it to us promptly. They follow up with us to make sure we got the scan and ask if there is anything else we are needing. I have sent them emails thanking them but now I want this to be a BIG shout out to them. We are never waiting on them for anything and that makes our job so much easier when we are doing time sensitive tasks. It has helped us not have to pass things onto the daytime IM staff and we are able to give them completed work instead.

Shout Out to **Anita**, Clerk at 5971 Service Ave. Anita had big shoes to fill taking over from Linda Anderson – and Anita has done GREAT. She is on top of things as soon as you bring them up. She spends time on the floor speaking to the people we serve. She decorates the home so nice for each holiday. She keeps our white boards updated and even write B-days on there to help us know who to celebrate that day! She is an asset to the home and we are glad we have her!

Shout Out to **Lupe** from the 6390 Plum Activity Center. She does POT at 5971 Service Ave and she is a charm to have around. The people we serve LOVE her ... you can tell. She does phenomenal active treatment and engages all the individuals. She does their hair nicely and ensures they look good 😊 we love having her here for POT. She is a great co-worker and team player!

BIG THANK YOU to **Cynthia Moore**. She has gone above and beyond by becoming a state driver to assist with getting the boys to school. One of the boys knows why she comes over and gets ready to go to school. Since this time his time at school has increased. Thank you for all this help and ensuring they get a ride to school.

I want to give a shout out to **Tempe Williams**, the URC at 6480 Mimosa, and **Shawna Johnson**, the housekeeper at 6480 Mimosa, for helping me deep clean the Individuals rooms after the home got off restriction.

A huge shoutout goes out to **Mark Burgess**! When Chaplain Mike was out of town last week, Mark stepped up and led Chapel ... leading the music time and sharing the message. Mark also recently supplied the Chapel with many awesome tambourines for all Chapel attendees. Our Chapel services were upbeat before, but now they're *really* rocking! Thanks for going above and beyond, Mark!

I'd like to give a shoutout to **Sarah Chavarria**, Home Supervisor for 6330 3rd Street. Her home recently experienced the death of one of their individuals and Sarah consistently went above and beyond in service to the extended family. She also did the same for her individuals and staff as they all coped with the loss. Sarah loves her job and loves her people ... and it shows.

I would like to give a shout out to **Traycl Gandee**, **Vanessa Pacheco**, and **Celeste Grascchel** for helping me understand the QA reports for Risk Mgt. This is a process I am not familiar with and they are taking time out of their day to explain to me the process so I can fly solo. I am very grateful for their assistance. 😊

Congrats to everyone who participated in the Special Olympics Basketball skills and game day! The Tigers are ALWAYS #1! Thanks for always representing AbSSLC SO well! AND to the **Rec Crew** who make ALL of this happen, Thank YOU for your dedication and hard work that make smiles bigger and brighter across the campus! YOU are AWESOME!

We have two new housekeeper men training at 5971 Service Avenue. They've been doing great from what I see. Super kind and the house has been smelling very clean!

Shout out to **David Smyth** and **Gayla Whitfield** for coming to the QIDP training. They provided details about switches, how they work and what they work best with. They both provided insight to ensuring the individuals have greatest independence in their daily living. We greatly appreciate the time and additional handouts with YouTube videos included!

Shout Out!

Let's **Shout Out** and recognize others!
Text your ShoutOut to 325.370.4525 or email
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