



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 November 1, 2021

### COVID19 Testing

Week of 11.01.2021

## Testing Change!

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

#### Round 1

**Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
0530-1130 & 1300-1500

#### Round 2

**Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**  
0530-1130 & 1300-1500

**You must test both rounds each week**

Hopefully, our numbers in Taylor County will continue to decrease!

### AbSSLC COVID19 Status

As of Friday, 10/29/21

Number of Individuals Positive	0
Number of Individuals currently in Isolation	0
Number of Staff Positive	5

### Phone Solicitations

We have started seeing a number of staff get calls on their state phones to discuss donations to various charities, student loan repayments and the always popular call to check on your car warranty. Although these are pretty common – especially on cell phones – they haven't started hitting our state numbers regularly before now. Just like you do with your personal phone, hang up on them and **never** give out personal/state information!

### Virtual Sale to benefit the Abilene VSC!

Do your Christmas Shopping now while benefiting the Abilene Volunteer Services Council.



Book and Gift Virtual Sale  
Open Now -Nov. 4th at 1pm  
Items for the whole family  
Delivery date at ASSLC on Nov. 5th 10am  
Go to:  
<https://mystore.collectivegoods.com/Account/SetEventPromo/0000229397>



KITCHEN GADGETS



DISNEY STORIES



UNIVERSAL WRENCH

<https://mystore.collectivegoods.com/Account/SetEventPromo/0000229397>

### Red, White, & YOU! Job Fair

Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 2 pm  
Taylor County Expo Center Exhibit Hall.

**Tell your friends about the  
great career opportunities we offer!**

### See.Say.Do – It Makes a Difference

### Flu Shot Clinic

Thursday, 11/4  
6am-2pm  
Lone Star Coffee & Tea House



# Shout Outs!

Shout out to **Melissa Elizondo**. She is the Cashier for the entire campus and for several months has been doing a 2-person job alone. She is always pleasant and courteous! Her position touches each department on campus. She serves the folks who live at Abilene SSLC in a BIG way.

Shout out to **Sarah Blaylock RN**, for her immense help with organizing! She puts the health and welfare of our Individuals a priority. We are so appreciative of her covering a home, in addition to working her regular schedule. Thank you so much!

More notes from family members coming in with donations towards the AbSSLC food pantry that I wanted to share:

“Glad that the food pantry is able to help those in need. Thanks for all y’all do” ~ Theresa

“Thank You for all you do. I hope things are getting easier with COVID complications. We are in a different world”~ Gail

“The staff has done so much for our son over the years and continue to do so. Thanks to everyone. I don’t know what we would have done without all of you.” ~ Mitchell and Annice

I need to shout out to all the staff at **6521 Peach** who are sticking it out through the craziness - **Feliciana, Bernadette, Kiza, Pacifique, Rebeca** and **Rylee** y’all are amazing. But a big shout out and thank you goes **Joann** who has been running lead on 6-2 & 2-10 for the last couple of weeks. Shout out to the activity staff **Savannah & Maryann** for never hesitating to help us out. Great job to the nurses, LVNs, RNs and our RT all of you for being a constant for our residents and staff. **Miya & Tempe** the home might just fall apart without you guys. Things will get better; we are an amazing team!

Shout Out to **Annette Brown** in Housekeeping! She has gone way beyond her duties to come in early to help scrub and wax the floors at Archives and still keep up with her other buildings. They look fantastic!

**WOW!** It was a Spooktacular Hallo-Fun day! There are NO words to express how much I appreciate ALL of you for participating in the events of the day ~ from dress up, Cupid shuffle x 2, to THE best (and maybe biggest) parade EVER! DID y’all see ALL those smiles (even the ones under the masks)? YOU did that! Your costumes, rides, wheels, and a few pairs of tennis shoes were FANTASTIC! Department heads, Supervisors, etc... Thank YOU for your encouragement, support, and for allowing YOUR crew to participate today! AbSSLC Hallo-Fun Crew~ YOU ROCK!! Thank YOU Thank YOU Thank YOU!

## 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!

# I am Hab Services ...

**Name:** Josie West, OTR, MOT

**Job Title:** Lead Occupational Therapist

**Length of Service with AbSSSLC/State of Texas:** 6.5 years

**Which homes/program areas do you serve on your caseload?** 5971, 6710, 6720, and 6750

**What do you do?** Occupational Therapy's core purpose is to enhance function through interventions targeting a person's "occupations" (i.e. habits, roles, activities, preferences) to facilitate an optimal quality of life. As an occupational therapist at the AbSSSLC, I serve the individuals through assessment and implementation of PNM supports. I primarily assess in the areas of ADL participation (dressing, grooming, bathing, etc.), oral intake, positioning, and sensory processing to implement a PNMP that serves the individual in a holistic and safe manner. I also serve on PNMT and as an active member in the IDT process collaborating with other disciplines and family members.

**How did you get started at AbSSSLC?** In 2011, my husband worked to complete the fingerprinting for the facility employees. At that time, they would come to campus to complete this. While fingerprinting, he struck up a conversation with the Hab Director at that time (Bobbie Holden) about how *"his wife wanted to be an OT"*. Bobbie then offered me an opportunity for student observation hours. After my hours were completed, I attended grad school in Lubbock at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center and completed one of my level II rotations at this facility. I participated in the stipend program and assumed an OT position at AbSSSLC in the Summer of 2015.

**What's most important to you about your job?** My highest priority is to serve the individuals by supporting them with plans that keep them safe and maintain as much independence in daily tasks as possible. As an IDT member, I strive to maintain open communication and collaborate with other Team members to support an interdisciplinary approach to best serve the individuals at AbSSSLC.

**What's your favorite memory you've made at AbSSSLC so far?** While I've had several meaningful interactions with the individuals we serve, my favorites are always when an individual realizes they can achieve something just by being given the opportunity. As caregivers, we all want to help and support the individuals as much as possible, but there is a lot to be said for the autonomy and independence that we can sometimes take for granted. Giving someone the chance to be independent in a task or to try something new instills a whole new level of confidence to support participation, function, engagement, and relationships.

