



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 January 31st, 2022

COVID19 Testing

Week of 01.31.2022

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

Round 1

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

Round 2

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

You must test **both** rounds each week

AbSSLC COVID19 Status

As of Friday, 01.28.2022

Number of Individuals Positive	10
Number of Individuals currently in Isolation	9
Number of Staff Positive	71

Golf Cart Rules of the Road

- Golf carts are electric vehicles – they cannot be driven in the rain nor through puddles. You stand a very good chance of damaging the cart.
- Watch for wasps building their nests in golf carts! This is a pretty common thing.
- Plug your golf cart in **every time** you return back to the home/department. Every. Time.

A few reminders for attending classes at FCT&D:

- No perfume/cologne/body sprays/scented lotions
- Wear appropriate footwear – closed toed with backs
- Wear clothing that is work appropriate. And suitable for lots of moving around and bending
- You are also expected to arrive on time (08:00 unless otherwise indicated)

What goes down our drains?

If a picture is worth a thousand words, this one is likely worth even more ... the mess shown below was removed from the screen trap right before the campus sewer line enters the city lines. As you can see, there is huge number of wipes (and a face mask) that we caught. It's very likely more made it to the city. Please **never flush wipes** (or basically anything except toilet paper) down the commodes. Doing so stops up our lines – frequently – but can also result in a fine from the City of Abilene.

You should never flush wipes down your commode at home – even if the package says it's flushable. It's really not and you run the risk of a major stoppage!



Q&A: Drug Dogs on Campus

Q: We saw dogs on campus with the police going around cars in the parking lot. Is this something new?

A: *Actually no. We have done this over the past years with different agencies. It's now being done with both the Abilene Police Department and the Taylor County Sheriff's Office.*

Q: What happens if the dog alerts on my car? Can I refuse to let my vehicle be searched?

A: *If the drug dog alerts on your vehicle, this would be considered probable cause for the Law Enforcement Officers to search your vehicle – just like if you were stopped in town and they called for a drug dog. If you refuse, it will be their decision what the next step is.*

Q: Will I lose my job if there are drugs found in my car during a search?

A: *If drugs are found during the law enforcement search of your vehicle, this information will be given to HHSC Legal/HR for the next step. It is against policy to bring any type of illegal substance (drugs) on campus, so losing your job is a very real possibility.*

Shout Outs!

I would like to give a shout out to the **Lead DSP III Joanne** at 6521 Peach. She always takes such great care of all the individuals. Friday 01/21/2022, she was helping move new wardrobes and furniture around the home. Saturday 01/22/2022, she went above and beyond by helping to clean up and organize the individual's belongings and help hang up their new wall décor. She truly is the glue that helps hold 6521 Peach together.

I worked at 6510 Peach last Thursday morning 6-2 with **Anita Smith**. I just wanted to let you both know what an outstanding job she did. She was amazing with teamwork and getting everything done in a timely manner. The residents that she worked with all light-up when she started working with them. She opened iBooks and followed programs. I was very thankful to be paired with her to work. Made my experience of returning to the floor to work a great one.

I worked Saturday 2-10 at 6500 Plum with **Sarah Cleary**. An absolutely positive work experience. She also was a great team worker and did an amazing job working with the residents. She knew the routine and was able to assist me with learning the routine. She also pulled iBooks out and read programs. She went above and beyond as well. She set out clothes for the 6-2 shift and she also wiped down w/c once the last personal care was done. I know it might not seem like much, but it meant a lot to me to know someone took the extra time to ensure that the residents would have nice fresh chairs in the morning. I know 6-2 appreciates this as well.

I would also like to say I have worked 6-2 shift and 2-10 shift at both 6500 Plum and 6510 Peach and all staff have been positive and very thankful for all the help. I have done 6-2 shift at 6521 Peach and I have not run into any negative environments. It has brought such joy to my heart to see all the hard work everyone has put in to support the ones we serve at AbSSLC. I've seen 6-2 shifts do extra to help out 2-10 and 2-10 do extra to help out 10-6. This is what it is all about. Coming together and having amazing teamwork. The residents deserve this and it's absolutely amazing to see firsthand.

I would like to give a huge shout out to the **Day Program staff** that are now working direct care at the homes! I'm so proud and thankful for all of you taking on this added duty

to help the facility. Thanks to **Mike Horton, Phyllis Grubb, Keri McClure, Cindy Bowman, and Adriana Diaz** for holding down the fort and making sure this all works for their staff. They have seen and dealt with so many challenges getting all of this up and operating. Transportation drivers are driving food trucks each day to make sure the individuals are getting their meals. Thank you all for taking the time to assist the facility through an extremely difficult time. We all say we are here for the individuals that live here but this time you have proven your love for the people who live at Abilene SSLC!

I want to give a big shout out to **Cheryl Galvan**. She runs the COVID testing and let's just say she has to deal with a lot on those days. She has the best energy about it though. Calling people to notify them and all the work after that. She is AMAZING!

Sending a grateful SHOUT OUT to **Justin McElrath** and **Ry Evans** at 6360 1st. Justin really knows the individuals at 6360 and provided great insight in how one individual with hearing impairment communicates, what his strengths are, and what is needed to help him understand a message. Ry was very helpful and pleasant to interact with. She helped make my visit very successful. Thank you them both!!

I partnered up with **Amy Gleaton** this past Saturday at home 6510 Peach and I just want to give her a big Shout Out. Her attitude was so positive and having her help was so amazing (I don't know what I would have done without her). Also to the home staff and the nurse's that were there as well thank you thank you thank you! It's amazing what can be done with teamwork.

Thanks to the always amazing **Rec crew** for ALL their hard work to make Winter Wonderland (at the gym) a beautiful place for the people we serve. They climb the stairs at Building 501 to get the figurines to load up and take to the gym for Winter Wonderland and then reverse order to bring them back to their home in the off season. They do this with patience, care, and a love for the people we serve (and who work here). Thanks y'all!

Thank YOU to the guys working in **Grounds** for ALL you do when we have a funeral on campus. YOU do this no matter how cold, hot, windy, rainy it is and I appreciate you ALL so very much!