



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 September 26th, 2022

AbSSLC Staff Appreciation Week

Monday 9/26	Crazy Hair Day
Tuesday 9/27	Tik-Tok Tacky Tuesday (mix match day)
Wednesday 9/28	Wear blue ~ Wash your blues away Wednesday!
Thursday 9/29	Wacky Sock Day
Friday 9/30	Crazy Campus Carnival

COVID19 Testing

Round 1
Tuesday
September 27th

Round 2
Thursday
September 29th

Don't Forget to Check Your Paycheck

You have received or will soon be receiving your first paycheck with benefit deductions for the new plan year.

- If you are paid **semi-monthly**, new plan year deductions were on your **September 15th** earnings statement
- If you are paid **monthly**, new plan year deductions will be on your **October 1st** earnings statement

Review your deductions to ensure that any annual enrollment changes you made have been included.

If you have any questions or notice any discrepancies, call the HHS Employee Service Center as soon as possible at 888-894-4747. Representatives are available Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.–7 p.m.

Off the Clock: Teresa Rogers Geocaches to Expand Her Horizons

Teresa was recently featured in the HHS Connection Newsletter!

When she isn't working as a clerk for Risk Management at Abilene State Supported Living Center, Teresa Rogers is building geocache containers to meticulously hide them in various locations for other geocache enthusiasts to find. While she spends time with her husband hiding them, they also travel to find them, often vacationing in cities across the country to find containers from well-known people in the geocaching community. Rogers appreciates the puzzle-solving aspect of geocaching and enjoys learning about the history of the cities they visit.

What is geocaching, and how did you become interested in it?

Geocaching is basically a treasure hunt. People will put out containers and post the coordinates online for other people to find. It may take you to remote countryside spaces where you can hike in the scenic outdoors or to places in the heart of cities where you may experience different cultures and learn something of history, or even to places farther off the beaten path. You just never know where you may end up. That's what my husband and I love about it.

See the full article @ <https://hhsconnection.hhs.texas.gov/news-announcements/announcements/clock-teresa-rogers-geocaches-expand-her-horizons>

Sign-up to receive the AbSSLC newsletter in your home email! <http://www.absslc.org/news/absslc-news-email-list-sign-up/>

Shout Outs!

Shout out to **Jeannie McGuinness** in Behavior Services. Despite recovering from a pretty intensive surgery, she's still working to help out as much as possible from home. Her advice and help with some of the workload has really helped to take some weight off of others' shoulders! Thanks Jeannie!

Shout out to **David Daniel** for actually coming out into the "trenches" to ask employees how they feel about the help we are giving/receiving with coverage on homes. It was really nice to see someone from Admin stepping out of the office and into the thick of it to find out what's working and what may not be. It's a struggle out here for a lot of us and it was really reassuring to know that our voices are being heard and that Admin really does care about how the decisions they make are affecting those of us directly involved.

I want to SHOUT OUT **Darlene Foster** and **Leslie Riggins** in the Hab. I consider these ladies the Heart & Soul of our group. They are both long term employees of the facility and truly personify the spirit of being care givers. They both make my day better each day and I miss them like crazy when they are out. Which by the way is hardly ever! And that is a good thing, because they are the "go to's" for all of us in the Hab. world. If I had a dollar for every time I have heard "I don't know, let's check with Leslie and Darlene...". They are here to laugh and cry with us when need be. They hunt us down if we are out and need to address an issue for an individual. They remind us of little things we may forget on occasion. They not only love and care for our individuals, they do the same for our department. Their support is immense and we don't say thank you enough. I am grateful for them every day and count them both among my biggest blessings.

Shout out to PNMP-C **Sarah Garcia**! She works her tail off and keeps the crew motivated. Keep up the Good work Sarah!

Connie from the Activity Centers has been EXTREMELY helpful day in and day out at 6480 Mimosa. She goes above and beyond her assigned duties to step in and help DSPs with bathing, dressing, and personal care with a smile on her face and a positive attitude.

SECC 2022 Basket Auction!

To help support the SECC we want to do the silent auction again.

To do this we need the help of the different departments.

Please contact Sherry Shoopman by e-mail or phone (x3266) if your department or group of friends can donate a basket.

The auction will be **October 10th-14th**
Baskets are due by **October 7th**

We have always had so much fun with these!
Thank you in advance for your donations.



Unit 4 Supervisors, AUD, and UD got together and provided a lunch for their staff to show their appreciation for all 3 shifts. Brisket sandwiches, sausage, chips, and a table full of dessert including the most delicious banana pudding! We appreciate each staff member and all the hard work and time they put into providing the best care to those we serve day in a day out!! You guys are the backbone to Unit 4 and we couldn't do this without 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!