



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 December 19th, 2022

COVID19 Testing

Round 1 - Tuesday, December 20th

Round 2 - Thursday, December 22nd

AbSSLC Shining Stars!

In addition to our ShoutOuts, we would like to start featuring a **AbSSLC Shining Star** in the newsletter. This will include a picture of the person along with a brief history of their time here and comments/quotes from the person making the nomination. The person featured will get a color copy of the newsletter along with a certificate recognizing their shininess.

AbSSLC is blessed with truly incredible staff – let’s help recognize them! Please send your nominations (name + a quote or two about their work) to Jeff Goza via email, text or using the Feedback link!

Our first Shining Star was actually a whole department! See Page 3 to learn more.

Christmas Lane 2022

Christmas Lane continues through Friday, December 23rd. Although the outside displays will be on the 24th & 25th, Santa and his helpers will be delivering presents and then taking a much-needed rest. **Come see us before it’s too late!**

Running Late for Christmas?

It’s not too late to purchase a gift certificate for your favorite person(s) from the **(World Famous) 5th Street Diner** or **Lone Star Coffee & Tea House**. This makes a great gift that they can use anytime in the next year for a great meal or drink.

To order your coupons, please email **Tara Beaver** with the name of the person you wish to give the certificate to, along with the amount. These will be color printed for you to pick up and give!



COVID19 Testing & Mask Questions

One of the most asked questions is still “why are we wearing masks and COVID testing when no one else in the world is?”

Two things for this: (a) there are a few others in the world doing this, including our sister facilities and (b) it’s required.

We are mandated through CMS (where our Federal funding comes from) to follow guidelines from the CDC. There are certain things required based on the **Taylor County Community Transmission Rate** – we get an update on this each Monday morning. For weeks, we have remained in the “High” category - you can see this at <https://tapme.ws/v9FPpm>. You will need to scroll down the page till you see the map of Texas.



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



Shout Outs!

Shout out to **Yoana Jimenez** for communication skills and great active treatment with the folks who attend the Sr. Citizens Program.

Shout Out to **Barbara** and **Kayla** @ FCT/D. We had a lot of challenges recently and juggling both the NEPT and refresher classes but Kayla and Barbara both exuded their wonderful leadership skills. Kayla also made the effort to help with kitchen coverage to make sure the kitchen had the support they needed. Barbara went out of her way to make sure the situations were handled ASAP so NEPT could keep going. I cannot say how proud we are as instructors to have both of them as our leaders.

Shout Out to **Georgia Fuller** (Unit 4). When I entered the home with all of my supplies, she immediately offered to help. She continued to ask if she could help, and I told her no I appreciate it so much. I knew she had enough to do. I was amazed to see someone work so hard. She wiped down all of the furniture, counters and then started doing one load of laundry after the other. She is very sweet. I haven't seen such great work in a while, just wanted to give her the recognition she deserves.

Shout out to **Ashley Marrow** and **Justin Rivera**. The Recreation Supervisor from San Angelo SSLC reached out to see if they would play on a unified Volleyball team with some athletes from their facility. Due to coverage issues, their facility was unable to allow staff to participate. Ashley and Justin agreed and joined their Special Olympic Team so those athletes were still able to participate.

Shout out to the **Singing Cowboy** at the 1st Street Entry/Exit gate. It's nice to see someone this happy early in the morning – it makes my day.

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!

AbSSLC Shining Star

As the Director of FCT&D for past 12 years and then the previous 12 years being an Instructor I can say I have never worked with a more cohesive group of employees as I do today.



I would like to nominate **Kayla Saucedo, Emily Arzu, Ryan Lineweaver, Colin Dawsey, Joey Villarreal, Andrew Ruvalcaba** and **Jarrood Zamora** for a Shining Star.

This group of employees is the definition of **Teamwork**. The amount of dedication that each of them have for not only their department but the facility as a whole is tremendous. In the past year, six months and 3 months the extras that they have taken on has increased tenfold and they never complain. They continue to support each other and grow. Their visions for the future of not only the staff at AbSSLC but the People we Serve sees no ending. Some of the things that they have accomplished together are:

- Developed and teach new Bridges and Tier Leadership classes
- Mentor staff at AbSSLC
- Jarrood, Andrew and Joey graduated from the PiCert (Professional Instructor Certification) class
- Colin graduated from the Extraordinary Contributors Class and was named 2022 AbSSLC's and HHSC's Unsung Hero
- Kayla and Andrew graduated from the AirPower Leadership Academy (Dyess AFB Leadership classes).
- Ryan became the Van Driving Instructor Trainer for AbSSLC
- Joey has organized and stabilized the CPR program by becoming the CPR Coordinator for AbSSLC.
- Emily continues to support the Instructors by making sure that classes are scheduled and continuously sending out reminders of staff who are scheduled for class. She constantly is scheduling, re-scheduling and re-working the schedule to ensure that the staff are getting the training they need.
- Kayla has worked with different departments on campus to assist in anyway she can i.e. Warehouse, Community Relations, Maintenance, Recreation, different Homes on campus, Laundry and most recently Food Service.
- All the instructors have assisted Kayla with helping the above departments.
- Ryan comes in 5 to 6 times at 05:00 a week to assist Food Service due to their staff shortages.

These are just a sample of the “extras” that they all do on a daily basis while they continue to do their regular jobs. They all continue to have fun and make learning fun even with hardships facing them. They continue to grow as a Team and influence others and I look forward to the many accomplishments they achieve in the future.



Barbara Marrow-Hale