



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 May 22nd, 2023

Heat Precautions

Helpful Reminders for you and the people we serve:

- Limit outdoor activity, especially midday when the sun is hottest.
- Be sure all vehicles are cool and have properly working air conditioning. If the air conditioning is not working properly, report it to Motor Pool.
- Sunscreen should be worn and reapplied as indicated on the package.
- Pace activities. Start activities slow and pick up the pace gradually.
- Drink more water than usual and don't wait until you're thirsty to drink more. Encourage Individuals to do the same thing. Muscle cramping may be an early sign of heat-related illness.
- You and the Individuals should wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- If you or an Individual need to cool down, cool showers or baths are helpful.
- **Never leave anyone in a car unsupervised.**

Spotlight on our Staff Shining Bright Together!

The **Together We Shine** campaign reminds us that we create quality services each day that make a positive difference in the lives of our individuals and their families.

One success story begins with Home Supervisor **Sarah Chavarria** and Social Worker **Kristen Cosper**. In the weeks leading up to an individual passing away, Sarah and Kristen worked together to find ways to keep the family virtually connected. A small gesture of connecting the family via Sarah's workplace laptop when the established methods became difficult, moved the family immensely. Soon after the passing, the family decided to purchase an iPad to be available for other family members living far away and in need for connection and closure.

Chaplain **Mike Horton** joined the effort to help the family gift become widely available for others in similar need. These 3 staff rose above to make this individual's passing more peaceful, and in turn, we as a campus, have benefitted greatly. Thank you **Sarah, Kristen** and **Mike!**

We'll be sharing Together We Shine success stories monthly. Please consider sharing your stories to <https://forms.office.com/r/nLEe6d720V>



Take a minute to thank our amazing **Speech & Audiology Team** that serve those living at AbSSLC!

Chelsie Harruff, SLP
Gayla Whitfill, SLP
Yolanda Brown, SLP
Jocelyn Villanueva, SLP
Letiticia Martinez, SLP
Donna Boulette, Audiologist/SLP
Leslie Riggins, SLP Assistant
David Smyth, SLP Assistant

**Name Badges must be worn
and visible at all times!**

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!

THANK YOU to **Cheryl Galvan** for coordinating ALL things COVID testing for the past 3 years! She made it all look (and feel) so easy! Thank you, Cheryl for serving us all so well!

Shout Out to the **Grounds Crew** - Thank you ALL so much for your help with the funeral/burial last week and for allowing us to borrow Mark for the past 2 weeks! Y'all are AWESOME and we appreciate you and all you do SO much!

Shoutout to **6370 7th Street!** The home and nursing staff and were able to bring everyone to chapel and dances and attend themselves with their whole home. It's awesome to see them involved, helping with transport and having a great time with their home.

Thank YOU to everyone who helped us make serving Ice Cream floats SO much FUN during Good-bye COVID:

Volunteer Services Council (VSC) for funding this event.

Cindy/PJ for running around ALL over town 10 times to find sodas and ice cream! AND for serving floats with a smile and ALWAYS great attitude!

Kevin Adams for delivering 2 of THE cutest and BEST freezers to store ice cream.

Cindy B/Sarah for keeping us iced down and bringing coolers and ice!

Grounds Crew for helping us unload.

It takes everyone to make anything happen around here! Thank you ALL!

Thank you to **6450 Plum** staff for loving and caring for those you serve SO well!

Thank you to **Mark Burgess** for filling in for Chaplain Mike while he was out: Chapel Services, calls for those with health/end of life concerns, and 2 funeral services. Mark is a HUGE blessing to me AND to AbSSLC! Thank you Mark!

Thank you to **Laura** and **Dottie** for covering Chapel services in Chaplain Mike's absence!

Thank you to ALL who made Elvis a fun show! The **Rec Crew** always rock everything you do, and we appreciate you so much.

Thank you to **Candice Moore** (Risk Management) for arranging Taylor County Sherriff Department to escort family/friends to the Cemetery! That was SO helpful and we appreciate all who were involved in making this happen!

Shout out to **Josefa Garza**, Program Development Specialist, for always being willing to step in and help her coworkers. We had someone who couldn't cover their DSP shift at the 6500 Plum this week, and even though she had not previously done a shift at that home, she volunteered to cover it. She always has a smile on her face and a positive attitude, and she is a delight to work with in our department. Thank you, Josefa!

Shout out to **Shae, PJ and Cindy, Mike, Dave, Jesse, Doug and Kenny** and my work crew. I have worked for a lot of companies over the years but NEVER have I ever been appreciated for things I do and the times I volunteer like here at ABSSLC!

A BIG Shout Out to **Carl** in IT. He spent a lot of time with Maintenance Staff today to have the Outlook PHISH button enabled after we lost it on the last update. We appreciate your time and patience.

I wanted to give a HUGE shout out to the staff at **6480 Mimosa**, including home supervisor **Kimble**, for showing up to an Individual's graduation ceremony. Not only did they show up for her, but they made amazing signs to display while she crossed the stage to get her diploma. The 6480 Mimosa crew cheered loudly for her as well as all the other AbSSLC graduates. You could tell how much these staff truly care about this young lady and just how proud they are of her amazing accomplishments!!!

A big shout out to **Joe Moore** in Motor Pool – he has been working shorthanded but getting things done in a timely manner. Thank you for all you do - it means a lot!

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