



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 June 12th, 2023

Legislative Update

(As of 6/10, the Governor has not signed the bills that put the below into effect, but he is expected to do so)

- 5% or \$3,000 (whichever is higher) annual pay increase is effective **7/1/2023** for all employees, including those currently at the top of the range
- An additional 5% or \$3,000 (whichever is higher) annual pay increase is effective **9/1/2024** for all employees, including those at the top of the range
- The minimum and maximum for all salary schedules were raised by 5%/\$3,000 (whichever is higher)

Quick math – 5% of \$60,000 is \$3,000 so anyone who has an annual salary less than \$60,000 will get a \$3,000 increase, and anyone who has an annual salary more than \$60,000 will get a 5% increase.

- We will now have LVN IV, PNA V, DSP V, and Psychiatrist V positions!
- Several positions including but not limited to PNAs, DSPs, RNs, LVNs, APRNs, social workers, psychologists, groundskeepers, food service workers, custodians, and laundry/sewing room worker positions (among many others) will be assigned a higher salary schedule
- \$50M in deferred maintenance and \$14M in emergency repairs
- Over \$101M to maintain the March 2022 and February/March 2023 salary increases
- Almost \$39M to fully fund the re-procurement of an electronic health record for the SSLCs and an electronic health record for the SHs
- Rider to allow us to pay for on-call time
- Over \$2B (yes B as in billion) to rebuild, expand, and build new state hospitals and other mental health facilities

Required Training

If you have been at AbSSLC over 2 hours or so, you know we have a fairly extensive amount of training due each year. Depending on your position, this may be a mixture of both in-person and iLearn classes or iLearn classes only. Through 2023, we are also having additional training as part of the **Together We Shine** program.

Training Reports (showing the current month plus the following 2 months) are provided to Supervisors every Sunday with additional updates as needed. Each staff member is responsible for doing their required training while the supervisor is held accountable for ensuring it is done. Each month we receive a report from State Office showing our compliance – 95% or better is required.

The training reports should be readily available to you – your supervisor can tell you where to find them for your Home/Department.

Food Truck Friday!

Tacolote

Friday 6/16 – 11:30am-1:30pm (sellout)

Bill Cain Pavilion



ERS Summer
Enrollment
June 26-July 7

Reminder – Designated Driver Cards

Your Designated Driver must have a new **yellow** DD Card beginning on **Monday, June 19th**. The white DD cards will no longer be accepted for entry on that date.

We want to hear from **you!**
Click the [link](#) or scan the QR
code to let us know your
thoughts & ideas!



Shout Outs!

My shout out is for all the staff helping at 6500 Plum at this time. **Vocational, Recreation, Activity Centers** and more. Also, to the regular home staff who have been more than welcoming. We truly do come together and get the job done and provide the most we can for young men at the home.

Shout Out to **Adam Berry** for delaying his time off to work at 6500 Plum due to staff being out sick and for stepping up to help whenever he is needed. Thanks Adam!

Shout out to the **Vocational Services Department!** Moving from another department to Vocational has really helped open my eyes & understanding of this department. They do so much for the individuals that work here & find jobs that best suits their abilities. The individuals get to earn money & the look on each of their faces says it all on payday! Vocational Services is always trying to come up new ideas for jobs. Everyone should get to know how other departments play a role in the lives of the people we serve.

Logan (Food Service) was serving at 6500 Plum and was wonderful this morning. His interactions with one of the young men were appropriate yet also very engaging for the young man. They discussed the menu for breakfast, which the Individual actually knew by heart. Logan commended him for being so smart and knowing the menu. Logan couldn't shake his hand but he reminded him that he had gloves on and that they can do "elbow bumps." The young man immediately knew and followed suit. You could tell this was not the first time they had this same interaction. When another young man entered the dining room showing evidence that he is NOT a morning person, that did not dissuade Logan from cheerily greeting him. Both Logan and **Lisa** (the staff helping at breakfast) teamed up to try to encourage him. Please let Logan know how much we appreciate him making the boys' days brighter with the food and smiles he delivers.

Shout out to **Chris Martinez**. For the past few weeks, he has done double and triple duty. He has been amazing and has truly been appreciated.

Shout out to **Jessica Tercero**. While the AUD was out, she was given a few tasks to do, and she was amazing at it. Jessica also took it upon herself to start painting some of the things at the infirmary that has not been finished. She is an all-around team player. Thank you for all that you do.

A Shout Out to **Kaleigh Johnson**. She has been recognized on two occasions for her active treatment and willingness to do anything needed to get the job done at 6690 Circle Drive. The home really appreciates her ideas for active treatment and her upbeat and positive attitude. Thanks Kaleigh!

Shout out to **Amber Stanford**. I was gone for a couple of weeks, and she helped the covering person for me. They both did an amazing job where when I got back it was just like I had not been gone. You're a Gem for the facility and greatly appreciated.

I want to give a shout out to **Ana** (AbSSLC Campus Security). On Wednesday, June 7th as everyone is coming to work, she was waiting at the gate to direct the Ambulance which had arrived on campus for a medical emergency while at the same time trying to radio for help with an individual who saw an open gate and a chance to get off campus. She kept the individual safe and on-campus as the ambulance left, she then was able to get the gate shut and locked while keeping the individual safe and on campus. She did a great job.

Shout out to **Marnnie Shaw**. She is always going above and beyond her duty. She helps across units and different areas when needed. If you see her around let her know that she is appreciated.

Shout out to **Leroy Lewis**. Leroy was seen sanitizing all handles, and rails at the infirmary. Not only did he do the area, he walked around the infirmary building hallways sanitizing as well. Thank you for keeping infection and germs down.

It's easy to do a Shout Out! - Email your Shout Out to Jeff Goza or Text it to 325.370.4525