



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 18th, 2023

Together We Shine: A Happy Team at HAB

When you walk into our HAB department, you feel it. This group of people are Happy! Happy to support the individuals, happy to work closely together across their assigned therapy disciplines and happy to go above and beyond.



This spirit to shine was brought to the forefront this past summer when 6500 Plum was challenged to create a summer full of meaningful activities that would keep the active young men engaged during summer break. The HAB team, working closely with several other teams from Facilities and Program Operations developed a comprehensive plan to address the needs.

Even when the gap of the daily schedule was filled in, this wasn't good enough for the team. They transformed a room in the home to compliment the unique sensory needs of the individuals living there. From vestibular swings to compression canoes (yes, that's a real thing) they worked diligently to understand the full array of communication, sensory and behavioral needs of each person. This attention was further elevated by their regular on-site coaching and training of staff.

The outcome is predictable when you meet this group, as they credit other departments for the success ... then point fingers to each other as champion of the HAB effort.

Thank you Amy Gleaton, our Director of Habilitation Services for continuing to foster a group that epitomizes going above and beyond. And thank you HAB department for consistent action that supports the individuals we serve. Amy proudly states "they don't make it a practice to say that's not my job ... they say, we'll make a way!" Thank you HAB for making all of us Happier!



(Far left Jocelyn Villanueva, SLP, Back left Jonathan Petrosky, PNMP, Marlena Arduini, OTR, Amy Gleaton, OTR, Director Bottom right Jennifer Lee, PT, DPT Sitting on the swing Suzanne Sargent RTT4)

Questions & Answers

Q. I heard the new fence will stop us from getting to OWT for activities. Is this true?

A. Not exactly. Although the fence will cross Oakwood Trails Drive, there will be a way for staff to go through the gate to enter/exit the OWT area. We will be working out the logistics for this once the fence installation begins.

Q. We heard that 6760 Circle Drive is moving to 6370 as their permanent home. Is this true?

A. We've heard the same thing. And no, they will move back when the renovations are done.

Q. I have questions ... how do I ask them?

A. Glad you asked! We love to hear your questions. You can ask via the feedback form @ <https://www.absslc.org/feedback/> or text it to 325.370.4525

Driving a Pickup?

Remember that you can't have anything in the bed of your truck when parking on campus. This is for the safety of those that live and work here.

Shout Outs!

Shout Out to **Celeste** in QA! Thank you so much for all your hard work on our recent Settlement Agreement Monitoring Team visit and getting all the documents and the meetings schedules. It has kept me going in the right direction this week.

A Shout Out to **Kenneth** in BHS. I heard him on the radio several times last Sunday – a busy day! He was most helpful on various situations that were going on. Very responsive and very polite.

BIG shout out to **Cindy** and the **Recreation Department** as well as **Volunteer Services** for being recognized at the QIDP conference in Austin. Michelle Alletto (Scott Schalchlin's boss) noted that Abilene has had petting zoos and pet therapy dogs coming to the facility as part of the community involvement and active treatment. WAY to GO!

Shout out to **Octavia Beasley**. We only had 3 staff on duty for most of the day. With the great communication and teamwork that you pulled together; the day went smoothly even with the few hiccups that we had. Thank you for being a great shift lead. Your communication was the key.

Shout out to overnight nurses **Mulu RN, Ariana RN, and Maria RN** for working so hard at infirmary! Awesome job ladies!



Pictured left to right: Adriana Diaz and Cameron Thornton

ABSSLC Vocational Services set up a booth at the West Texas Fair and Rodeo 9/8-9/16. The booth was FULL of projects that were made by the people who live at AbSSLC. Items were for sale, and it has been a huge success! Our AbSSLC Vocational Crew is SO talented and creative!



Congratulations to our Tier 1 September 2023 Graduating Class!

Back row– Micheal Bates (Dyess), Dylan Turner (Dyess), Orlando Borrego (Activity Centers), Chris White (Accounting), Marlena Arduini (Hab. Therapies) and Jon Barbian (Campus Security)

Front row– Michelle Crawford (Beh. Services), Erika Avalos (Unit 3), Martha Ruelas (QIDP), Amanda Espinoza (Activity Centers), Ronaldo Morais (Dyess), Avery Summers (Dyess), Kimberly Stull (Dyess) and Aaliyah Haberle (FCT&D)

Kneeling – Jessica Tercero (Unit 1) and Ashley Daronche (Dyess)



This picture & comment picture was ~~taken~~ borrowed from Facebook after a recent Bocce Ball tournament that Sarah participated in with her TSO partner.

Thank you Sarah, for the excitement in your work and for sharing this excitement with others!

Let's Shout Out and Recognize Others!

It's easy to do a Shout Out! Email **Jeff Goza** or text **325.370.4525** with their name and your comments