

# The Resource



**Newsletter from  
Families of  
Richmond  
State Supported  
Living Center**

We are a charity devoted to enhancing the quality of life for our loved ones at Richmond State Supported Living Center and keeping our members informed about the facility and its services.

*March, 2018*

***Please note:*** Our next meeting on Sunday, March 18 is a very important meeting, and we urge all family members to come. Eighteen of the 22 department heads have agreed to come and speak to us in a “Meet and Greet”. These people have a great deal of influence over the care of our loved ones. We have an unusual chance to meet these people in top positions and learn more about what goes on at Richmond SSLC. There is more information inside this newsletter. If you cannot come, please call in as instructed below. We will have our PA system on, so the meeting should be audible to callers. Thank you!

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***Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 18, 1:30 – 3:00 pm***

in the Forever Young building by the chapel. Meetings are scheduled on Sundays so that you can visit your family member AND attend our informative meetings. For those who can't attend, a conference line has been set up. To use it, please follow the instructions below. **PLEASE:**

1. Turn off your television set, radio, and any other background noise.
2. Dial **877-226-9790**.
3. Enter the Access Code: **9 2 0 6 9 1 9** and then press **#**.
4. Press the **“Mute”** button on your phone so we cannot hear what's going on in your house.

Thank you.

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Our mailing address: P O Box 1671, Richmond, TX 77406

*(This mailing address is for the FAMILY association, not Richmond SSLC or Volunteer Services.)*

Please check out our website at [FamiliesOfRSSLC.org](http://FamiliesOfRSSLC.org).

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## Contents

Message from President Louise Clay  
Reception and Plaque for Hurricane  
Harvey employees  
Department Heads "Meet and Greet"  
Medical Staff at RSSLC

Medical Staff at RSSLC  
Danger from "Disability Rights Texas"  
TX Health & Human Services Report on SSLCs  
Minutes from January 21 Meeting  
Donations to Families of RSSLC

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## From President Louise Clay

Greetings to family members, guardians, and friends –

My, what an ugly winter we have had! Cold, rain, cold, rain, rain, etc. Did I say rain? One day we are wearing fur-lined boots and the next day we have on sandals. The redbuds are already blooming and the grass is greening up, but we could still have a last-minute freeze. The average time of the last freeze in the Houston area is mid-February.

Richmond SSLC is gearing up for the trips to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Most of the residents will be able to go. Here's an interesting fact: a long time ago a very wealthy person associated with the Sears company left Richmond SSLC a large trust fund designated for recreation. The facility received money from the trust for numerous years, and then the money just stopped coming. Nothing was received for years. Then all of a sudden a new trustee discovered the fund and began managing it, and the money started flowing again. This has been going on several years. So recreation events are funded without RSSLC's having to pay for them. This means that the residents get to go to events even in tight financial times for RSSLC.

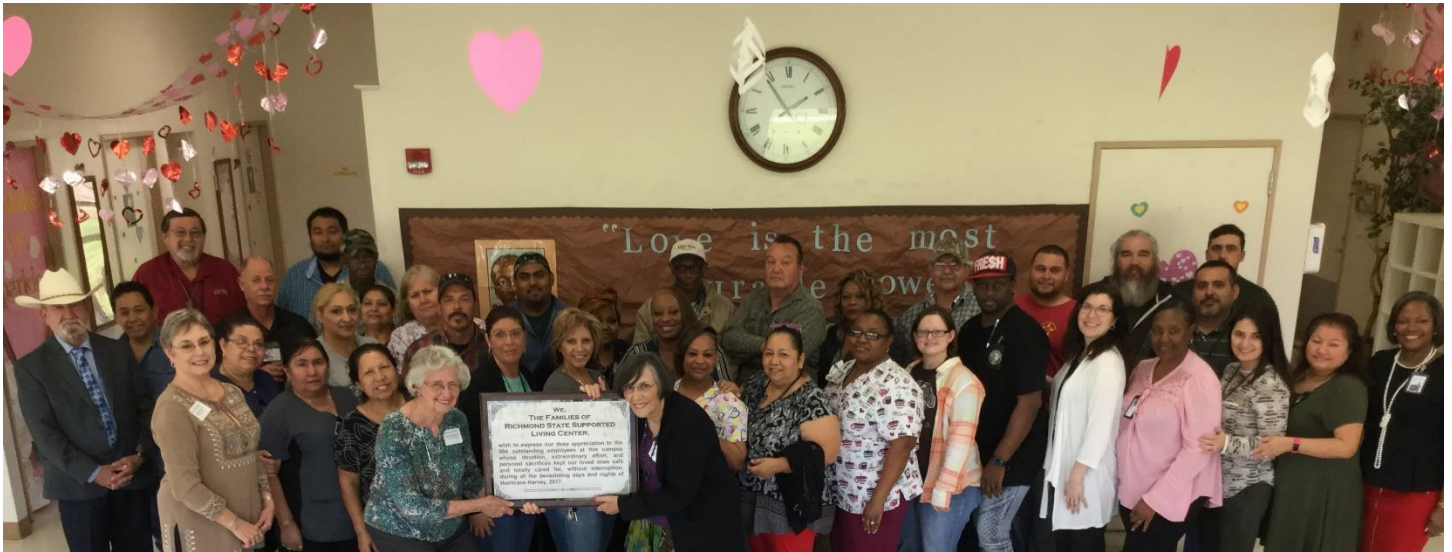
Our organization finally came up with a way to recognize the employees who worked long and hard throughout Hurricane Harvey. As we have mentioned before, some of these people spent many days at RSSLC, away from their families, sleeping on cots and working around the clock taking care of our loved ones. Other employees labored to keep the facility safe and running. The state has very stringent rules as to what we could do for the employees. We could not give them ANYTHING. So, what we did was have a lovely, large plaque made to honor them, and we had a reception last week to recognize them. There are pictures below and on the next page. The plaque is hanging on the wall in the switchboard area where the huge clock used to be and where everyone can see it. (The clock was moved to another wall.) We wanted the plaque to be VERY visible. Be sure to notice it next time you visit. We will also print a letter for each person, and that letter will go into the employee's file.

Well, that's all for now. Hope to see you at the next meeting on January 18.

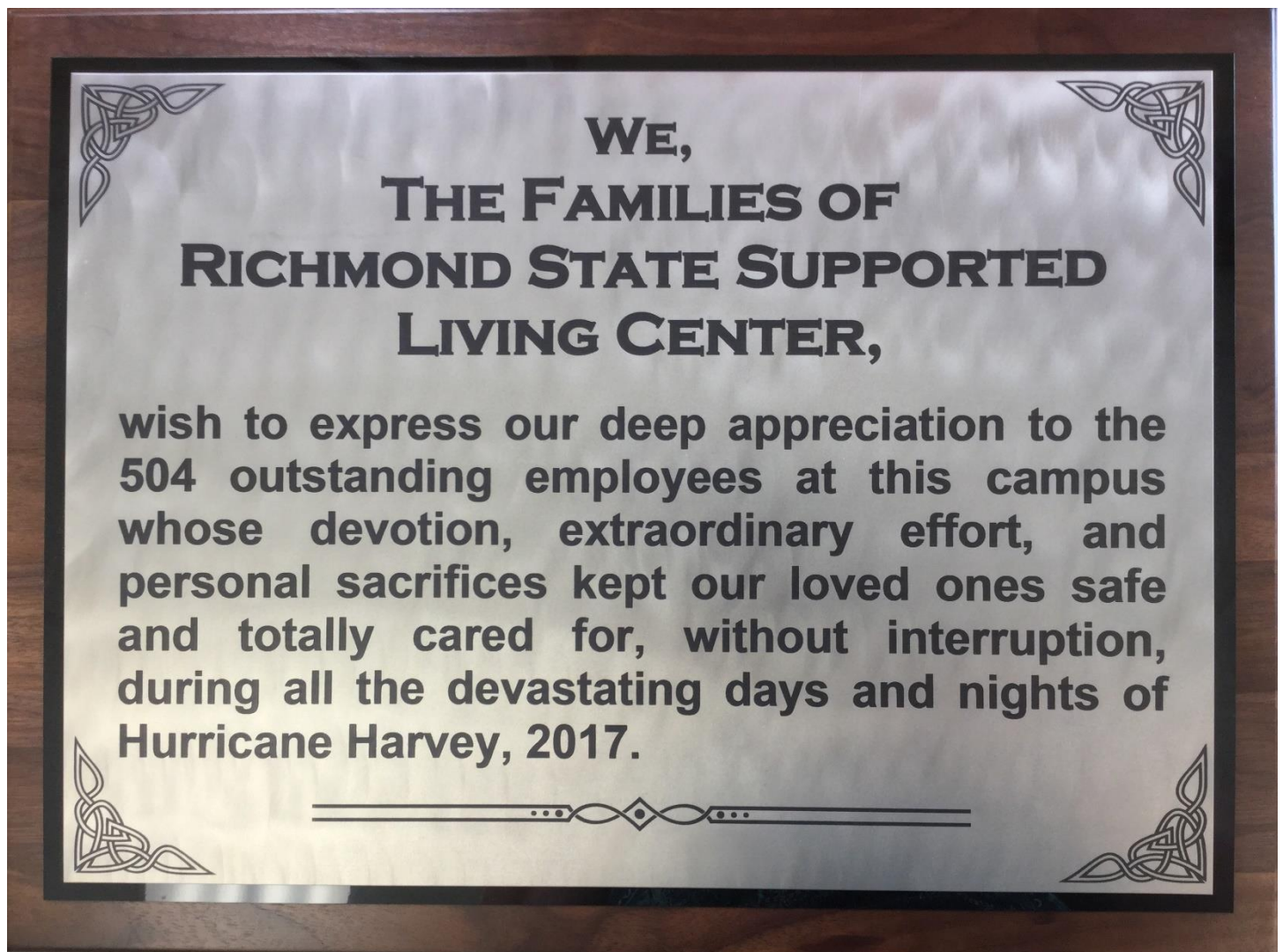
Louise Clay  
[louise@pcm.net](mailto:louise@pcm.net)

(281) 346-0346 home  
(281) 543-0123 cell

P O Box 966  
Fulshear, TX 77441



Here are some of the people who attended the reception and presentation of the plaque.



The 18" x 24" plaque above the switchboard honoring the RSSLC employees



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## **FAMILIES OF RICHMOND STATE SUPPORTED LIVING CENTER**

### **MEET and GREET**

Sunday, March 18, 2018

1:30 p.m.

By Peggy Osborne, Vice President

Eighteen of the 22 department heads at RSSLC have accepted an invitation to attend a Meet and Greet on Sunday, March 18, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

The meeting will open with the introductions of our guests, followed by a short period of questions from the family members, followed by refreshments.

This is an excellent opportunity for you to put a face with the person at the other end of the phone or email communications you may have had, or to find out who you may need to contact in the future.

Immediately following the Meet and Greet, there will be a short business meeting. Please plan to stay for the meeting to hear the details of the week of events planned in April for RSSLC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and other business.

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### **Medical Staff at RSSLC**

The following is a list of the current medical staff at RSSLC:

Tran Quan, D.O.	Medical Director
John Lu, M.D.	Trinity
Charles Tran, M.D.	Four Rivers
Mary Olickan, N.P.	Three Rivers
Kevin Glancy, N.P.	Trinity C
Moromoke Odina, M.D.	Leon
Arwa Laheri, M.D.	San Antonio (contract)
Verena Hug	(contract)

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### **Danger from "Disability Rights Texas" (DRTx)**

An organization called "Disability Rights Texas", formerly named "Advocacy, Inc.", is hell-bent on closing the SSLCs. Their latest stunt is sending out letters to guardians of SSLC residents stating that the SSLC resident ***"may be subject to neglect and abuse."*** If you get one of these letters, please pitch it in the trash where it belongs. Please do not respond to the letter! And report it to me, please. After failure with the 2017 legislature, these unscrupulous people have gone to Plan B: shopping for plaintiffs and lawsuits to close down our loved ones' homes! How they can gain access to SSLC residents' private records is beyond me. It should never happen. This information came to us from PART, our state organization devoted to preserving choice in living accommodations for our loved ones.

Louise Clay (281) 346-0346 home (281) 543-0123 cell [louise@pcm.net](mailto:louise@pcm.net)

Families of RSSLC, PO Box 1671, Richmond, TX 77469

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## **TX Health & Human Services Report on SSLCs**

The TX Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is required by law to prepare a report on the provision of services by State Supported Living Centers for 2018-19 long range planning. We, the “stakeholders,” acting for our family members at RSSLC, are invited to submit input, either by mail/email or at one of two public meetings in Austin.

Please send your comments about the care that your family member is presently being given at RSSLC and what you would like in the future. This is our chance to express our appreciation for the care and to mention specific things provided or that you wish to have provided. Most or all of us will probably send in our comments rather than attend the meetings in Austin.

The notice that HHSC sent out about this is really hard to comprehend – it is “bureaucrat-ese” in language and organization. The meetings are on March 8 and June 7, 2018. Sometime before the June 7 meeting there is supposed to be a draft of the upcoming report, and we are invited to make comments about the draft. If we receive notification about the draft prior to the next newsletter, we will send that information along.

Please send your comments before June 7 at follows:

Email: [SSLCReport@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:SSLCReport@hhsc.state.tx.us)

Snail mail: HHSC State Supported Living Centers (must be postmarked by June 7, 2018)  
State Office (W-511)  
701 W. 51<sup>st</sup> St.  
Austin, TX 78751

Meetings: John H. Winters Human Services Complex  
701 W. 51<sup>st</sup> St.  
Austin, TX  
March 8 and June 7, 2018 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Phone: (512) 438-3076 for additional information or questions

Thank you.  
Louise Clay

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## **Minutes from January 21 Meeting**

The meeting started at 1:33 with Chaplain Billy Guerrero giving an opening prayer. There were new faces in the crowd so we went around the table and introduced ourselves.

Louise Clay gave the Treasurer Report.

Michele Arnold gave the report from the nominating committee. The officers brought forward for approval were Louise Clay, President and Treasurer, Peggy Osborne, Vice President, Pat Lodder, Secretary. The motion was brought forward to accept the new officers for 2018. It was seconded. The officers were approved by all attending.

Jay Dietz gave a summary of his and Shannan Stavinhoa's attendance at the Youth Service Center of youth counselors. Shannan gave a presentation about RSSLC which she felt was well received. It is hoped that parents can attend other functions like this. Shannan will contact other groups like this. A good discussion was had on methods to promote RSSLC by the parents and loved ones of the residents at RSSLC. Some of the group had read an article in the Chronicle about a report from the Department of Health and Human Services about group homes. The report put a negative slant on group homes. Others in the group suggested using schools, churches and counselors to get out the benefits of RSSLC.

Louise Clay talked about the letters of commendation and a plaque in the main entrance area that the group wants to honor the employees who stayed with our loved ones during Hurricane Harvey and now the ice storm in January. She presented a drawing of the plaque for us for approval. It was approved by everyone there.

Shannan Stavinhoa talked about this year's Project Noel. It was wonderful and had new displays for people to enjoy. April 18<sup>th</sup> is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. There are many events scheduled during this week including a homecoming picnic, visits by elected officials, etc.

Cynthia Fannin, Assistant Director of RSSLC, gave an update on things at RSSLC. A representative from UTMB presented Tele-med, which is a program to help doctors at State Supported Living Center get remote medical help for the residents.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Lodder, Secretary.

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## **Families of RSSLC Donations**

**The Resource** is published to provide communications among families and friends of Richmond State Supported Living Center residents. Costs are covered by tax deductible gifts from individuals. Please make checks payable to **Families of RSSLC** and send to PO Box 1671, Richmond, TX 77406. Thanks!

♥ Our recent donors: Thank you!! ♥

**Darcy Eaves**

We are a 501(c)(3) organization named "Richmond State School Families and Friends, Inc.", a non-profit incorporated in Texas. Our operating name is "Families of Richmond State Supported Living Center", which is an assumed name registered with the state. If you look us up on the internet, be sure to enter the entire organization name as underlined above. An acknowledgment will be mailed for all contributions. If you fail to get yours, please call Louise Clay at (281) 346-0346.



*See you on March 18 we hope!*