

**From Our Families
To Your Family**

*About
Comprehensive Care
For Your Loved One
With I/DD*

Presented by



**Families of
Richmond State Supported
Living Center**

parents, guardians, and friends of the
residents of Richmond SSLC

For every family who has a loved one with I/DD, planning for his or her future is one of the most worrisome things we ever face. Although this issue can never be settled completely, there is an option you may not know about – one that we have selected for our own loved ones – and that is the truly complete care provided by the **Richmond State Supported Living Center**, which is home to more than 300 people.

Richmond State Supported Living Center was built by the State of Texas in 1968 in a pastoral setting on the banks of the Brazos River in Richmond. The campus has 241 acres, with numerous residential buildings (“homes”) and almost every type of service and support you can imagine. There is a separate document called *“A Virtual Tour of Richmond State Supported Living Center”* that takes you for a “drive” all over the campus and points out the physical facilities. In *this* publication, however, we want to talk about services which are needed by a large number of people with I/DD and are available right here at Richmond.

Richmond State Supported Living Center (SSLC) can meet the needs of anyone with IDD, no matter how complex a person’s needs are and whether or not the person is ambulatory. Below is a list of the major services, followed by more detail:

- ❖ Medical care with emphasis on prevention
- ❖ Dental care, with sedation if necessary
- ❖ Psychiatric services, full range
- ❖ Nursing care around the clock
- ❖ On-site pharmacy services
- ❖ Medication dispensed only by nurses
- ❖ Infirmary for ongoing medical observation and care
- ❖ Occupational, physical, and speech therapies
- ❖ Vocational services
- ❖ Food service providing regular and special diets
- ❖ 24-hour security
- ❖ Wheelchair repair, on-site (done promptly!)
- ❖ Recreation
- ❖ Bike riding paths
- ❖ Music therapy
- ❖ Swimming at the on-site natatorium
- ❖ Exercise program at on-site gym
- ❖ On-site café with computer lab
- ❖ On-site horse arena with riding programs
- ❖ Religious programs with fulltime chaplain
- ❖ Highly trained staff to aid and care for residents
- ❖ Volunteer services to enhance quality of life
- ❖ Rigorous regular inspections, state and federal

MEDICAL CARE

Richmond SSLC has its own physicians who work fulltime with the individuals. For complex problems or procedures, medical specialists are brought in or the individual is transported to a specialist.

If a resident has an illness requiring hospitalization, a caregiver from the individual's home (one for each of the 3 shifts) is sent to the hospital to be with the resident around the clock. A nurse from Richmond SSLC also visits daily.

DENTAL CARE

Dental care is a major issue for people with I/DD. Most dentists don't know how to deal with our loved ones. Richmond SSLC has its own dentists, hygienists, and assistants who practice in the on-site dental clinic. Some residents require sedation in order to be treated, and that is provided when needed.

PSYCHIATRIC CARE AND BEHAVIOR THERAPY

Richmond SSLC has its own psychiatrists, psychologists, and behavior experts to evaluate and treat those residents who need this type of care.

NURSING CARE AROUND THE CLOCK

Every home at Richmond SSLC has nurses assigned to it. Medication is dispensed only by RNs and LVN-IIs.

PHARMACY SERVICES

An on-site pharmacy with registered pharmacists fills prescriptions for the residents.

INFIRMARY CARE

Richmond SSLC has an on-site infirmary for minor illnesses. In addition, all hospitalized individuals return to the infirmary for observation before being released to their individual homes.

VOCATIONAL SERVICES

These services include programs for skill development, supported employment, and an on-site workshop. Residents really enjoy earning money in the workshop.

THERAPIES

Richmond SSLC has fulltime occupational, physical, and speech therapy. These therapies deal with everything from adaptive equipment to swallowing issues. Many residents are served in one capacity or another.

FOOD SERVICE

The central kitchen prepares tasty meals 3 times a day, 7 days a week. The food is delivered to all the homes.

24-HOUR SECURITY

Richmond SSLC has 24-hour security personnel. In addition, there are cameras throughout the campus (except bedrooms and bathrooms). These cameras are monitored by campus security around the clock. The campus entrance is also manned.

WHEELCHAIR REPAIR

Richmond SSLC has a fulltime wheelchair repair shop with several employees who have specialized skills to keep wheelchairs and other adaptive equipment in good condition. This shop also makes special items for those residents who need custom equipment to minimize the effects of their physical limitations.

RECREATION

The Recreation Department arranges on-campus events and frequent trips for shopping and entertainment for all residents, depending on their needs and preferences. Richmond SSLC has a large fleet of buses and vans in constant use on trips too numerous and varied to describe here. Holidays are celebrated with enthusiasm!

SWIMMING, BIKE RIDING, AND EXERCISE PROGRAM

These are available on campus. Richmond SSLC has a beautiful natatorium and a splash pad for summer fun.

ON-SITE CAFÉ AND COMPUTER LAB

The coffee shop and computer lab are available for the enjoyment of those who can benefit from them.

HORSE ARENA AND RIDING PROGRAMS

The riding program is manned by an organization named “SIRE”, which conducts a therapeutic riding program for people who live at Richmond SSLC and for people who live off campus.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE AND THE CHAPLAIN

Richmond SSLC has its own lovely chapel, and non-denominational religious services are held there every Sunday morning. In addition, Catholic residents and Jewish residents may attend their own special services, which are held at other times. Richmond has a fulltime chaplain and an assistant who go to the homes and visit with the residents. The chaplain also visits residents daily when they are in the hospital.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES COUNCIL OF RICHMOND SSLC

The Volunteer Services Council of Richmond SSLC is a 501(c)(3) organization which raises money to provide the “extras” to Richmond SSLC residents. Every individual gets nice, appropriate Christmas and birthday presents. Many of the facilities around the campus were built with funds raised by the VSC over the years. The Volunteer Services Council (VSC) operates an on-campus “Country Store” resale shop which sells donated items very inexpensively to residents and staff. And the VSC also manages the **Family House**, an on-campus residence available by reservation to out-of-town families visiting their loved ones.

HIGHLY TRAINED STAFF

Richmond SSLC has many types of employees – more than 1100 in all and of every imaginable specialty – to manage the care of the residents.

Training is an ongoing process, with care-giving employees taking new classes or refresher classes constantly. Emphasis is placed on resident safety and on prevention of abuse and/or neglect.

RIGOROUS REGULAR INSPECTIONS

Last but certainly not least, this is one of the most important items. Richmond SSLC undergoes an unbelievable level of inspection by state and federal agencies several times a year. These inspections cover the physical facilities and all aspects of the care provided. As family members, we can take great

comfort in this fact. While no care-giving is ever perfect, it is always beneficial to have lots of eyes on the process. Richmond SSLC and the other 12 State Supported Living Centers around Texas are the only facilities for people with IDD which get that wonderful level of scrutiny!



As parents and guardians whose family members enjoy the services provided by Richmond SSLC, we feel it is important to share with you what is available from the State of Texas to the public. If you wish to take a tour of the facility, please contact Shannan Stavinhoa, Director of Community Relations at Richmond SSLC: (281) 344-4335. The address of Richmond SSLC is 2100 Preston St., Richmond, TX 77469.

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August, 2016