

# *The Resource*



*November, 2018*

**Newsletter from**

## **Families of Richmond State Supported Living Center**

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.

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### **Very Special Meeting with Reception starting at 1:00**

**Sunday, November 18, 2018  
in the Forever Young Center**

**introducing new  
RSSLC Director Erin Knight and  
Assistant Director Sam Lynn**

**Please come if you possibly can and show that WE CARE.  
Or dial in at 1:30 – see next page for details. Thanks.**

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***Our next regular meeting will be Sunday, November 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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## **From President Louise Clay**

Hello, everyone –

Things have been happening in and out of RSSLC. First we will mention management changes:

- RSSLC has a new Director, Erin Knight, who came from San Antonio SSLC as Assistant Director. Our organization presented her with a fruit basket in September to welcome her.
- RSSLC has a new Assistant Director of Administration, Mr. Samuel Lynn. He arrived several months ago.
- RSSLC Assistant Director Cynthia Fannin remains Director of Programs.
- Community Relations clerk Brenda Rangel has been promoted to Coordinator of Volunteer Services. The director position is still unfilled in that area. Brenda and her new assistant are taking care of their big Christmas operation, with presents purchased and wrapped for over 300 residents, not to mention all the birthdays, too. Each resident gets several presents, specially chosen for him or her, wrapped and delivered. This is a huge undertaking.

We want to thank Cynthia Fannin for setting up the phone system so that our members can dial in to our meetings. We try to have our speaker system on loud enough so that everything can be heard over the phone. Please feel free to join in.

Our new member Carrol Johnson, who has a family member at Brenham SSLC, is handling printing and mailing of our newsletter, and we owe him a big thank-you for that because this newsletter requires a lot of labor.

If you have a new state senator or state representative, please visit him/her and let the person know about RSSLC and the remaining 12 SSLCs around Texas. The state legislature will be in session this winter and spring, and these people will be funding the SSLCs – **or NOT**, which would be disastrous for us and our loved ones.

If you know of someone who needs a tour of the RSSLC campus, try calling Brenda Rangel at (281) 344-4286. Normally the Director of Community Relations would handle tours, but that position is open.

As we have mentioned many times before, the ARC organization would shut down all the SSLCs in a heartbeat if it could. But the ARC has one good thing going for it. They have a trust fund setup so that money can be left in a special needs trust for people with IDD without the state depleting it. It is called the Arc of Texas Master Pooled Trust. You can Google on it. Apparently it has reasonable enrollment costs and lower administrative costs than banks. It is worth a look if you plan to leave money for your loved one. The money can be spent for whatever you specify, aside from basic care.

That's all for now. Hope to see you at the meeting on November 16.

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## **New TX Guardianship Registration Required - Important**

In the last newsletter, we mentioned that new legislation requires all guardians in Texas to register with the state. **New** guardians (June 1, 2018, or later) have to receive guardianship training (about a 1-hour online course) and have a criminal background check. **Existing** guardians (before June 1, 2018) do not have to take the training or have the background check. If you are an existing guardian, the guardianship judge is supposed to notify you when you need to register. The registration can be done by mail or online. The state website does not say whether the registration is a one-time thing or whether it has to be done annually or otherwise.

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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.

♥ **Our recent donors: Thank you!!** ♥

**Frankie Glidewell**  
**Esteban and Mary Ortiz**  
**Jerry and Louise Smith**

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.

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## **Minutes from September 16 Meeting**

Louise Clay called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. and Chaplain Billy read a passage from a Dr. Charles Stanley book.

Louise Clay gave the treasurer's report.

We learned that Carroll Johnson would now be sending out the snail mail newsletter - we're all grateful for his help.

Bea Alonzo, director of admissions and placement, was our speaker. To be able to live on Richmond's campus an individual must be at least 18 years old, have a diagnosis of IDD that was given before age 18 and have an IQ of 69 or less. An individual could have an additional diagnosis of a mental illness and/or be medically fragile.

By Texas law, LIDDAs (Local IDD Authority in each county) must agree to a family member coming to live on our campus. When LIDDAs push back, Bea might be able to help.

We discussed guardian registration, a new requirement. It's done on line but if you work on an Apple computer, you must fill the form out in hard copy.

Technology using driver's licenses make security on our campus excellent.

We now have two full-time psychiatrists.

Meeting was concluded at 1:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted for Secretary Pat Loder,  
Michele Arnold



***See you on November 18, we hope!***

Chaplain Billy, thank you for always being in Forever Young first to open that beautiful space for our meetings and putting the chairs back in place.