

**News Announcement
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Randy James is CPMC's Newest Occupational Therapist

On any given day one might find Randy James, zipping across the room on a scooter board, bouncing on a large ball or even trying to spin a hula hoop. His young audience, eager to please, tries to imitate his moves.

To some it might appear as if he is playing around or entertaining kids, but in reality, these are activities he uses in observing and evaluating fine and gross motor skills.

Randy James is Colorado Plains Medical Center's newest occupational therapist on staff, who specializes in pediatric therapy, both in clinical and school settings.

Prior to arriving in Fort Morgan, Randy spent 28 years working with children aged 21 years and younger, including newborns and infants, through the United States Department of Defense's Educational & Developmental Intervention Services (EDIS) program and with the Galveston Independent School District.

"I love working with kids. The position at CPMC allows me to continue to not only work with kids, but also with adults through our home health services

and with hospital inpatients. This is a nice change of pace since each patient population has different needs,” James notes.

Often times the children Randy works with are autistic or have learning disorders such as attention deficit disorder. He also works with those who have developmental disabilities or other profound medical conditions such as cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, or spinal bifida.

“Sometimes kids’ abilities can be increased through adaptive equipment and toys or learning daily living skills with alternative methods. I enjoy the challenge of bringing out the best in every individual I work with,” says James.

James’s work experience hasn’t been limited to schools and clinical settings. For 11 years he volunteered with part of an interdisciplinary team with the Association of Young Children in Europe. The team provided training to staff in various orphanages and refugee camps in Romania, Croatia, Bosnia, and Slovenia.

James earned his Bachelor of Science degree in occupational therapy from Texas Woman’s University in Denton. His Master of Arts degree in behavioral sciences was received from the University of Houston. He is also certified to administer the Sensory Integration Praxis Test: SIPT.

The Occupational Therapist is active himself and when not working with patients on motor skills, he can be found golfing or bike riding. He is looking forward to tackling some of Colorado’s bike trails in the near future.

For more information on how your child might benefit from occupational therapy, contact James at The Center for Rehabilitation and Wellness at CPMC 867-6544.

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