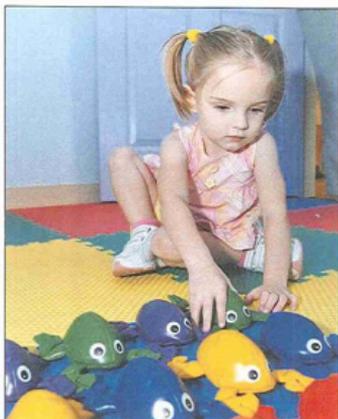


THE JOURNAL OF OSCEOLA COUNTY BUSINESS

The Carrousel Therapy Center; A playground that helps heal



News-Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

Above, on July 12, the Carrousel Therapy Center opened where children can play and act like a normal kid and still get the therapies they needed. The center works with highly trained professional therapists that are ready to create in-depth therapy plans that works best for a child. At left, 3-year-old Jessica Lanier, of St. Cloud, who was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, plays with some toys at the center. She undergoes speech, occupational and physical therapy.

By Michelle DeLeon
Staff Writer

The first and the only therapy center in the St. Cloud area, Carrousel Therapy Center offers you and your family a place where comfort and care comes first.



Dalis Rivera

Dalis Rivera and her husband, Jose Rivera, had a vision of a place where children undergoing therapy can be more comfortable and happier rather than the plain four walls of a doctor's office. In addition, they want to inform the community that there is an alternative treatment for children with special needs.

On July 12, they officially turned their vision in to reality by opening the Carrousel Therapy Center where the children can play and act like a normal kid and still get the therapies they needed.

Dalis is one of the occupational therapist

in the Carrousel with an impressive 34 years of experience. As the director of operations, she makes sure that every one of her patients doesn't feel like a patient but a family whom she and her staff can help.

Her husband, Jose Rivera, is her continuous support.

"He is the reason why my vision came to reality and without him I will not be able to do this," Dalis said.

Carrousel Therapy Center works with highly trained professional therapists that are ready to create in-depth therapy plan that works best for your child whether in Speech, Occupational or Physical Therapy. They assist children with developmental delays in communication, social skills, eating, dressing, toileting, problem solving and gross motor skills.

In addition they also attend to conditions such as autism, sensory deficits, down syndrome, seizure disorder, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, orthopedic impairments and behavioral.

It is the only center that uses Sensory Integration Therapy, which is specifically designed to stimulate and challenge all of the senses in which children with autism have trouble learning. Dalis explained that during a session, the therapist works closely with the child to encourage movement in the room, which enables them to explore their senses.

Aside from helping children, they also offer therapies to the elderly by bringing their service to the comfort of the person's own home. They understand how difficult it can be for the elderly with Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, disease arthritis and more to travel, so they offer a home service for better comfort.

"Just like the Carrousel in Disney where it goes through stages, these children also goes through stages and it just gets better. That's what we want to offer them, Carrousel Therapy Center will go through with you on every stages and we promise a better outcome all through it" - Dalis and Jose Rivera.



CARROUSEL THERAPY CENTER
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 9:00AM TO 6:00PM
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 (AT INTERSECTION OF HICKORY TREE
 AND NARCOOSSEE RD.)
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