New Day Columbia

Providing Hope & Restoring Dignity

Fourth Quarter 2026



Mayor Buffaloe recently visited New Day Columbia.

Highlights

Question of the Quarter
Who are we serving?

Legalities: Mail Services & Health Care
How Mail Becomes a Lifeline

Staff Spotlight
Vencel Tigue, Service Coordinator

HEART OF MISSOURI UNITED WAY

city of Columbia
Columbia/Boone County Public Health & Human Services

COUNTY OF BOONE MISSOURI

SERVICES

The Quiet Room

New Day Columbia's quiet room offers guests a peaceful, welcoming space to pause, recharge, gather their thoughts, and find a moment of calm during challenging days.

THE BOARD

Call to Action

At New Day Columbia we are excited to share our new space and welcome more of the community. Interested in a tour? We'd love to show you around!

FINANCES

News From The Back Office

CentralMOGives begins December 1! Learn how you can help New Day Columbia reach its $20,000 fundraising goal and continue serving our community.

Welcome

Providing Hope & Restoring Dignity

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

New Day Columbia

A Little About New Day Columbia: New Day Columbia is an independent, standalone nonprofit organization located within the VAC Opportunity Campus, where it rents space to serve our community. As an independent organization, New Day Columbia is responsible for its own fundraising and outreach efforts. We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of the Opportunity Campus and look forward to continuing to build awareness, connections, and support throughout the Columbia community.

While New Day Columbia continues to grow as a day center within the Opportunity Campus, we want to share an opportunity with you. We are now available, ready, willing, and able to provide outreach to the community. If you belong to a social, civic, or business group, attend a church, lead a university or college class (perhaps in Social Work, Sociology, Medical School, School of Journalism, or School of Nursing), or teach in the CPS, New Day Columbia would be happy to present information to your group.

For example, a Columbia church recently requested our presence, and we delivered a PowerPoint presentation while answering pertinent questions. We would be glad to do the same for your group or class. Simply let us know your preferred location and timing, and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

We are rapidly approaching the area's biggest fundraising effort. CentralMoGives (formerly known as CoMoGives) is a go-to fundraising organization that generously supports New Day Columbia. This year's fundraising campaign begins December 1 and concludes December 31.

Please thoughtfully consider giving as generously as you are able and designating New Day Columbia as your nonprofit of choice. We will be grateful, the homeless community will benefit, and you will feel very good about what you've done. Thank you!

Mel McMorris
Board President

Articles

Providing Hope & Restoring Dignity

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

News From The Back Office

With December quickly approaching, it's time to prepare for Columbia's biggest fundraising campaign, which this year has been expanded to include all of central Missouri. CentralMOGives (formerly COMOGives) launches December 1 and runs through December 31. With nearly 200 organizations participating, it will be important for New Day to make itself known. So as one of our supporters, here's what you need to know:

- New Day has set its 2026 goal at $20,000. We sincerely thank everyone for helping us!
- Given that New Day's legal name is still "Turning Point" —and that some donors may think we still go by that name— the CentralMOGives organizers assured us that donors can search either name. So if you have trouble finding our page, please don't give up! Just try searching for both names. You can also scan the QR code below to go directly to our page.
- While CentralMOGives is an online giving platform and wants only online donations, there is an exception: if you would like to give through a donor-advised fund, you can do so. You will simply direct the check to CentralMOGives with New Day Columbia as the designation. Doing so helps New Day reach its fundraising goal, so please send through CentralMOGives instead of directly to New Day.
- There are many ways that you can help New Day succeed! We are looking for a few donors willing to offer a matching gift; if you'd like to help in this way, just email me (carolyn@columbianewday.org). But just as helpful is the simple act of "sharing" on social media. During the month of December, please check out our Facebook page regularly (https://www.facebook.com/comoturningpoint/), and share our posts with your friends. A simple note about why you support us could do a world of good. Thank you!

Now that New Day has settled in at the VAC Opportunity Campus, we're excited to see what's ahead. As the only day center in Boone County supporting individuals experiencing homelessness, we know how critical it is to keep our services strong. We can't thank you enough for your help in fulfilling our mission—

Providing hope and restoring dignity for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Carolyn Hunt
Operations Manager

Articles

Providing Hope & Restoring Dignity

SERVICE OF THE QUARTER

The Quiet Room

At New Day Columbia, the quiet room offers something simple but meaningful: a peaceful place to pause, take a breath, and find a little calm in the midst of our clients' hectic days.

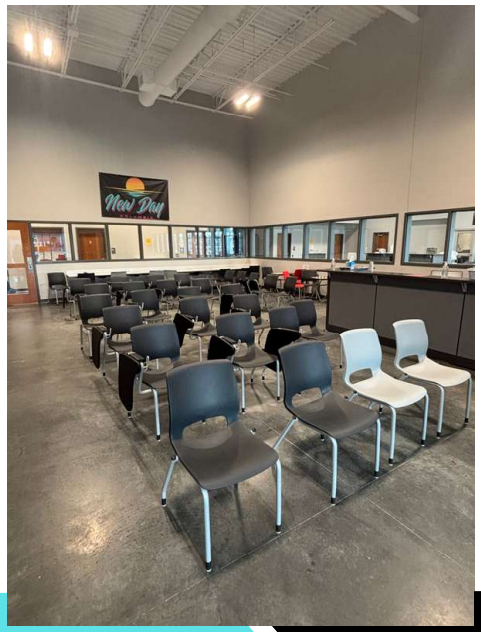
For many guests, the quiet room is the first space they enter when they arrive. It provides an opportunity to settle in and choose an environment that feels most comfortable to them. For those who prefer fewer people, less noise, and fewer distractions, the quiet room offers a sense of peace and serenity.

Maintaining this calming environment is an important part of what makes the room so valuable. New Day Columbia's staff work hard to keep the space welcoming, comfortable, and ready for those who need it.

Sometimes, a little quiet can make a big difference. The quiet room is more than just a place to sit, it is a space where guests can take a moment for themselves, gather their thoughts, and experience a bit of calm during what may be a challenging time.

At New Day Columbia, creating a welcoming environment means recognizing that everyone has different needs. The quiet room is one important way we offer guests the space, comfort, and peace they deserve.

Arianna Fisher
Board Member





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Providing Hope & Restoring Dignity

THE BOARD

Call to Action

In September, New Day Columbia had the pleasure of welcoming a small group of guests to our new space for an Open House. It was a wonderful opportunity to share our space, introduce our board members and staff, and connect with those who share an interest in our mission. We look forward to creating more opportunities to welcome members of the broader community in the months ahead. In the meantime, if you are interested in seeing our new space and learning more about what we do, please don't hesitate to reach out! We would love to show you around. You'll find a few photos from the evening later in this newsletter.











Highlights

Providing Hope & Restoring Dignity

Who are we serving?

The emphasis at New Day Columbia is on the individual and building personal relationships with each one of our clients. On occasion, it is interesting to look at the big picture to assess how well our programs are being used and by whom. Now that we have been at The Opportunity Campus for a couple of months, we can also compare the use of our new space to that of our previous location at Wilkes Blvd. UMC.

On any given day, our shelter seems to buzz with activity, providing both old friends and new faces an opportunity to make use of all the services we have to offer. The numbers certainly give credence to this observation. Since moving to The Opportunity Campus at the end of June, there have been 195 New Client Information sheets completed indicating the number of folks finding New Day for the first time, or at least the first time in a long time. In August alone, there were 311 different individuals who used our services for a total of 2,589 visits equating to an average of 100 folks in the shelter every day we were open. While general shelter use is tied closely to weather, which makes direct comparison a bit tricky, it is at least worth noting that we only had a daily average of 79 folks in the shelter during August of 2025.

The new laundry and shower facilities are a huge improvement as compared to what was available in our old space. This is seen in terms of number and quality of the washers, dryers, and showers, and their accessibility. As a result of this upgrade, the number of folks using our showers and laundry facilities have significantly increased since our move. In August 2026, clients took 521 showers and did laundry 260 times. These numbers translate to a 15% increase in showers and a 40% increase in laundry over the same month last year.

These figures clearly show that New Day Columbia is providing much needed and appreciated services to our unhoused neighbors. The staff and volunteers work hard to make sure every client is welcomed and that their needs are met to the best of our ability. The real celebration, however, is when those folks are able to secure housing and no longer need the services we provide.

Jo Lee
Board Member

Highlights

Providing Hope & Restoring Dignity

Legalities: Mail Services Help Guests Keep Health Care

Starting January 1, 2027, Missouri is changing the rules for many people on Medicaid, also called MO HealthNet. If an adult is between 19 to 64 and got Medicaid through Missouri's expansion, they will need to show that in a month they did 80 hours of work, school, job training, or volunteering.

Missouri also decided not to give short-term breaks to people who lose a job, get sick, or have an emergency. The state only checks one month out of every six, but a rough stretch won't excuse an individual on its own.These hardship exceptions would have worked like a safety net, where if someone were in the hospital or had an emergency, they could be excused for that stretch. Since Missouri isn't offering those, there's no automatic break.

When something goes wrong, the only way to keep coverage is to answer the state's letters, either by showing they have met the hours in another month or by proving they qualify for an exemption. And they can only answer a letter they actually receive. So with no hardship exceptions, getting their mail matters even more. If they miss one, they could lose their health care. If a community member doesn't have a steady address, New Day can help.



Our guests' mail is their lifeline. New Day gives people experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity a real address and a safe place to receive mail, so guests don't miss a letter like this that matters.

Kyle Olmstead
Board Member

Highlights

Providing Hope & Restoring Dignity

Staff Spotlight: Vencel Tigue, Service Coordinator



Jerrell Jackson
Board Member