



# Newsbrief

*Promoting the Abilities of Individuals Seeking Employment and Greater Participation in Community Life*

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## Success Story



**Prince "Deon" Fisher** was referred to Job Point in June by Mike Waltman of Missouri Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. He is a veteran of the United States Navy and Marine Corps, Honorably Discharged. He served in the Navy as a hospital Corpsman from 1997 to 2005, then four additional years with the Marines as a Paralegal Specialist. Deon came to Job Point after experiencing depression, anxiety and PTSD. He also has a history of substance abuse, several legal convictions and is on parole. With three children and a recent divorce, he was working the night shift at a fast food restaurant. Nonetheless, he was determined to maintain his sobriety and mental health, and to find a better paying job. He reported a desire to obtain a position in an industrial setting. Job Point Advisor, Ranjana Hans, assisted in updating his resume, identifying appropriate job leads and completing applications. He was extremely motivated and

cooperative with staff suggestions. During a pandemic and historic unemployment rates, he was offered an Operator position at Engineered Plastic Components, and started in July. Within two days, he was promoted to Forklift Operator, including a pay raise. Deon said he is thankful for his job, his relationship with his children and the people at Job Point. "I appreciate the staff who are willing and want to help. Teamwork makes the dream work!" Job Point congratulates Deon on his outstanding personal and vocational accomplishments.

*We welcome* our newest team members: Janelle Armstrong, Office Support Liaison, and Corey Ellington, Employment Consultant.

*We congratulate* Brenda Overkamp on her promotion to Executive Vice President.

*We thank* everyone who has donated through [CoMoGives](#). You can still give until midnight on New Year's Eve.

*Mark your calendar* as we hope to hold our events in 2021: Comedy Night April 21<sup>st</sup>, Annual Awards Banquet in June, and Company Feud late August.

## Job Point Named Small Business of the Year

On October 8, Job Point was honored by the Columbia Chamber of Commerce as the Small Business of the Year. Entities are nominated by Chamber members, then invited by the Chamber to submit a detailed application. Each nominee is evaluated in five areas: Business Growth, Business Management & Human Capital, Community Involvement, Intangible Considerations, and Marketing. Award winners typically show improvement in all aspects of managing their organizations. An anonymous panel of business professionals (judges) review applications and offer comments. Finalists are selected based on their strengths in one or several of the evaluated areas. The Small Business of the year is selected from these five finalists.



 Columbia Chamber of Commerce

## 2020 Graduates

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we were sadly unable to hold a spring or winter ceremony for our graduates this year. Instead we offered students the opportunity to receive their certificates in person and take pictures with their cap and gown individually and by appointment only. Nonetheless we take our hats off to these individuals for their dedication to persevere during this time of social distancing, quarantining, and a hybrid of virtual and reduced size classes. Congratulations to all our 2020 graduates!



Treashanae Hayes,  
2020 CNA Graduate



## Holiday Gifts Galore!

Thanks in part to generous donations from our local Walmart stores, Job Point was once again able to provide a holiday gift for the children of the people we serve. We are grateful for the opportunity to ensure every child will receive at least one gift this holiday season.

## October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

This year marks not only the 75th observance of NDEAM, but also the 30th anniversary of the ADA. Both milestones were commemorated with a range of events and activities centered on the theme “Increasing Access and Opportunity. US Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia said, “Ensuring that America’s workplaces continue to include and accommodate people with disabilities will be an important part of our economic rebound. Looking ahead, the Department will remain focused on the policies that led to a strong economy and record-low unemployment rates for persons with disabilities prior to the pandemic. A vigorous economic rebound and job growth will, alongside the Americans with Disabilities Act, increase access and opportunity for Americans with disabilities.” Office of Disability Employment Policy Deputy Assistant Secretary Jennifer Sheehy said, “People with disabilities are experienced problem solvers with a proven ability to adapt. Now more than ever, flexibility is important for both workers and employers. National Disability Employment Awareness Month celebrates the ingenuity people with disabilities bring to America’s workplaces.” Job Point acknowledges our vital employment partners for helping create opportunities for all people.



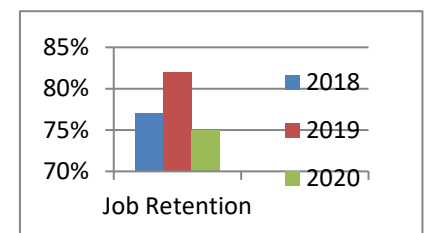
## Houses for Sale



In partnership with the Columbia Community Land Trust, Job Point’s affordable housing program currently has two brand new homes for sale at #7 and #9 Third Avenue. The houses were built by YouthBuild students and adults in our Carpentry program with direction and supervision of staff instructors. Income-eligible individuals or families may qualify for down payment assistance and mortgage payments could be a low as \$630 (including principal and interest, real estate taxes, homeowners’ insurance and land trust fees). Call today to schedule a tour or find out more by contacting Travis Kroner at 573-777-1580. Start the new year off in a new home!

## 2020 Outcomes

We proudly announce our outcomes for fiscal year ending 2020. Job Point served 336 individuals. The average hourly starting wage was \$12.13, and 75% of adults entering employment maintained their job for at least 90 days. We are delighted with a 97% customer satisfaction rating.



## Upcoming Job Point Programs

Starting dates for our programs include: **Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning**—January; **Certified Nursing Assistant**—February; **Highway/Heavy Construction, Intermediate Construction Trades Program (ICTP) and Office Technology**—open enrollment; **Job Works**—January 4, February 1, February 15, March 1, March 15. TABE testing by appointment only.

**Job Point** fulfills its mission through the support of Missouri businesses. We acknowledge new and renewed employer partnerships: ATR Towing & Recovery, Capital Paving & Construction, Colony Pointe, Columbia Appliance, Columbia Public Schools, Gerbes, Goodwill Stores (Moberly), HyVee, McDonald’s, MBS, MFA Oil, Phoenix Programs, Swiss Colony Brands, The Broadway, University of Missouri Health Care, University of Missouri Veterinary Health Center and Woodley Building Maintenance.

## *We Thank the Following for Giving Generously*

Anonymous  
Frank and Liz Aten  
Robert Aulgur  
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Chad Berchek  
The Brown Foundation, Inc  
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## *Gifts in Memory of Mark Farnen*

Mike and Rockie Alden  
Andrew and Cynthia Beverly  
The Brown Foundation, Inc  
Central Bank of Audrain County  
Kathryn Digges  
Enterprise Development Corporation  
Pat Farnen  
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Alicia Price  
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Michael Robey and Jerene Meisert  
Simon and Jennifer Rose  
Chris and Tori Webber  
Terry Woodruff  
Brian Yamada

## *Gifts in Honor of*

Ahnu-U LLC in honor of Eric Morrison  
Pamela Fainter in honor of Becky Curry Roe  
Kin Getzhoff in honor of Jan Lysaght

*Job Point is mid-Missouri's premier employment center.  
Since 1965, we have been linking people and jobs by providing career planning  
and job placement assistance. We specialize in preparing individuals to enter the workforce  
while meeting a critical need of the business community.*



Headquarters - 400 Wilkes Boulevard, Columbia, MO 65201 573/474-8560  
Moberly 573/823-2885

Accredited by CARE, the Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission, and an equal opportunity organization committed to a diverse workplace, Job Point is a member organization of Missouri Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (MARF).  
Auxiliary aides and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

[www.jobpoint.org](http://www.jobpoint.org)



*The Staff and Board of Directors Wish You Peace, Promise & Prosperity in the New Year!*