
MINNESOTA YOUTH SUCCESS STORY: DEAN

WSA 6 – SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL



On April 1st, 2013 Dean was officially hired by the Murray County Recycling Center. Dean had been doing work experiences off and on with the Recycling Center since 2010. He heard about the Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council (PIC) through his Special Education teacher at Murray County Central (MCC) in Slayton, Minnesota.

Dean was on the verge of dropping out of high-school on many occasions. He was faced with parenthood early, and other struggles crept up on Dean leading him into the juvenile justice system.

With the assistance of his Special Education teacher at MCC, Dean contacted the PIC to inquire about youth employment and training services. Dean was placed in a work experience activity leveraging Workforce Investment Act, Minnesota Youth Program and Department of Public Safety Juvenile Justice funds in order to provide quality services to Dean.

After a few long years, Dean graduated with his high school diploma in 2012 and has accepted a full-time position with the Murray County Recycling Center in Slayton. Another plus for Dean is that he is no longer involved in the juvenile justice system. Dean explained that involvement with the PIC youth programs “helped me feel more confident” and he gained the necessary skills to obtain employment independently. Dean also gained the ability to communicate effectively which assists him to be a self-sufficient adult with increased employment potential.